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THE RAKE'S PROGRESS

BY

A. G. Gardiner

That horrible Can't feeling

WHEN YOU—

CAN'T throw off that cold, influenza, or depression
CAN'T get rid of that headache, neuralgia, or rheumatism
CAN'T eat a good meal without getting indigestion
CAN'T sleep
CAN'T walk erect without those pains in the back
CAN'T settle down to work with any concentration or enjoyment
CAN'T laugh and be happy like the rest

Then do what wise people are doing and take—

Irving's Yeast-Vite *Tonic Tablets*

The Lightning Pick-me-up.

Mrs. M. Hodges, 11, Spencer Road, Tottenham, London, N., writes on 20th March, 1927:

"I think that when somebody derives great benefit from a wonderful tonic like 'Yeast-Vite,' it is their duty to let it be universally known for the sake of other sufferers. Exactly three years ago I was a nervous wreck. I had no appetite, could not sleep, felt depressed at the least thing, and had very little inclination to live at all. Then seeing the advertisement for 'Yeast-Vite' and reading of its possibilities, I decided to try it the first opportunity I got. Not being very well off, I bought the 1/3 size, which really put new hope in me. So great was the improvement, that a good Samaritan, noticing the benefit, made me a present of a five shilling bottle. Honestly speaking, it worked wonders. I began to eat and sleep better and that great depression gradually left me for good. To-day I feel a new woman, and I never fail to recommend your wonderful remedy whenever I get the chance. I will go so far as to say 'I owe my life to "Yeast-Vite," and it is within the reach of all.'"

CAUTION.—Beware of Imitations! See the name Irving's Yeast-Vite on every carton and bottle and sealed with Government Stamp. Refuse fraudulent substitutes which are worthless.

Irving's **Yeast Vite** *Tonic Tablets*

OUR GUARANTEE.
Obtain a 1/3 bottle of Irving's YEAST-VITE Tablets from your chemist. If not thoroughly convinced of the wonderful power of these tablets BY ACTUAL RESULTS, post the empty bottle to us, and we will refund the money by return of post.

Of all Chemists or direct from:—

IRVING'S · YEAST · VITE · LABORATORIES
Cecil House, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C.1.

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Sir W. Arbuthnot Lane has demonstrated the vital importance of proper diet in the maintenance of health, and as a remedy for illness.

Everyone who would appreciate a little free advice and guidance on this very important subject should write to the great diet expert, Mr. EUSTACE MILES (Dept. D.B.J.), 40, Chandos Street, London, W.C.2.

Mention any ailments and give FULL DETAILS of all foods and drinks at each meal.

Write name and address in CAPITALS, and enclose 1½d. stamp for postage.

HAVE YOU "TAKEN A RISK."

Even if no symptoms appear and a risk of venereal infection has taken place, go at once to a doctor or attend at one of the Free Treatment Centres for advice. There MAY be nothing the matter, but if there is, the earlier the treatment is begun the quicker and surer is the cure.

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—a new lined soled with **RYCROME** leather, which wears twice as long as ordinary leather, and gives you double value for your money. We offer these **RYCROME** Soled Double-Wear Boots, in Black or Tan, price **25/-**, on special easy terms which anybody can afford to pay—**1/-** now and **2/-** on delivery and **4/-** monthly, and you have the boots to wear while paying your monthly instalments. Give these wonderful **RYCROME** Boots a trial. Send 1/- (P.O. or stamps) to-day and say what size we shall send you. Satisfaction or Deposit refunded.

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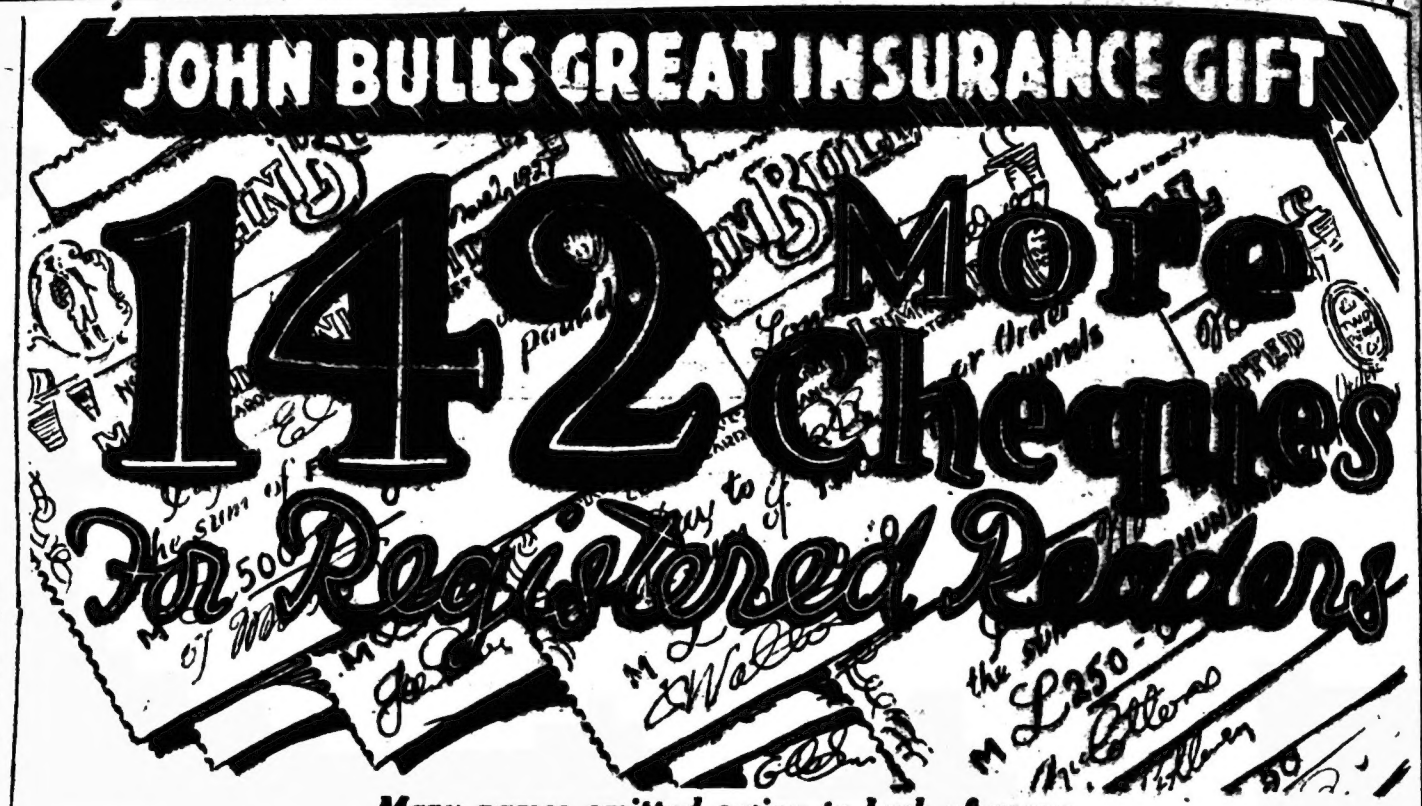

Many names omitted owing to lack of space.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Mr. P. HOPPER, 185, Manor Road, Woolston.
BLACKPOOL.—H. ARMITSTEAD, 5, Woodley Place, Thornton-le-Fylde.
MANCHESTER.—Mrs. M. HAMPSON, 37, Birch Street, Moss Side.
GATESHEAD.—F. MCCOMBIE, 28, Oak Street.
LONDON, E.1.—Mrs. H. WEINFULK, 24, Pedley St., Brick Lane.
SWANSEA.—Mr. J. THOMAS, 1, William Terrace, Mile End, Gendros, Forest Fach.
BIRMINGHAM.—Mrs. J. BRIABAND, 71, Clarendon Street, Aston.
ILKESTON, DERBYSHIRE.—Mrs. J. FREER, 3, Commercial Terrace.
AVENING, GLOS.—Mrs. E. GODWIN, Rectory Cottage.
SKEWEN, Nr. NEATH, STH. WALES.—Mr. J. JAMES, 38, Burrows Road.
BURNBANK, LANARKSHIRE.—Mr. T. H. BROWNLIE, 9, Glenlee Street.
BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH, ESSEX.—Mrs. W. E. HARVEY, 77a, High Street.
GLASGOW.—Mrs. M. MCKENZIE, 79, George Street, Whiteinch.
FISHGUARD, PEM.—Mr. R. HOWARTH, 7, Vergam Terrace.
SALFORD.—Mrs. W. BARNETT, 22, Myles Street, Liverpool Street.
BURNBANK, LANARK.—Mrs. P. DRUMMOND, 13, Shawburn Street.

COSHAM, HANTS.—E. A. J. QUARTERLY, 14, Salisbury Road.
CREWE.—Mrs. M. PENNY, 33, Flag Lane.
CORNHOLME, Nr. TODMORDEN.—WILSON GRAHAM, 1, Daisy Bank Street.
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WARRINGTON.—H. WAINWRIGHT, 7, Brackley Street, Howley.
DURHAM.—R. SIMPSON, 5, Onslow Terrace, Langley Moor.
BOWDEN CLOSE, Nr. CROOK.—F. MYERS, 9, Bowden Terrace.
ASHINGTON.—WM. MIDDLEMISS, 93, Rosalind Street.
DURHAM.—JOHN GRAHAM, Senr., 28, Beaconsfield Street, Stanley S.O.
Co. DURHAM.—Mr. H. SCOTT, 2, Pine Street, Grange Villa.
BIRMINGHAM.—Mrs. E. HURLSTON, 23, Oxford Road, Park Road, Hockley.
BIRMINGHAM.—H. H. MASON, 606, Bordesley Green.
ASTLEY, Nr. MANCHESTER.—Mr. T. CARR, 111, Green Lane.
GLOUCESTER.—Mr. D. W. J. BANKS, 26, Barton Street.
DURHAM.—Mrs. E. PENWICK, 7, Albert Street, Brandon Colliery.
ASHINGTON.—Mrs. M. MOFFITT, 71, Maple Street.

ROCHDALE.—Mrs. E. CARTER, 8, Peel Street.
MANCHESTER.—Mrs. M. H. DARBYSHIRE, 40, Woodland Avenue, Gorton.
GLASGOW.—Miss A. MILLIGAN, 64, Poolwell Street, Bridgeton.
HUDDERSTONE, LEICS.—Mrs. E. NEEP, Edgestone House.
BLACKHEATH, S.E.3.—Mrs. A. BARGENT, 80, Humber Road.
SCUNTHORPE.—Mrs. M. HOLTBY, Bungalow Park Farm, Old Crosby.
GATESHEAD.—Mrs. M. E. STOREY, 50, Milling Street.
MANCHESTER.—Mrs. M. M. PARKER, 1, Holland Street, Ancoats.
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BOLTON.—Mrs. M. HOLLAND, 13, Haydn Street.
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To "John Bull" Registration Department, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

I have sent an order form to my newsagent for the regular weekly delivery of JOHN BULL. Please register me as a regular reader.

Reader's Name.....Age.....
in full. (CAPITAL LETTERS.)

Address .....

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Reader's Signature.....

Name and Address of Newsagent.....

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Date.....

Use ½d. stamp. Don't seal envelope. A certificate setting out the full benefits and conditions and certifying registration will be sent if ½d. stamped addressed envelope is enclosed for return.

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY. J.B. 9/4/37.

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To (Name of Newsagent).....

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Please deliver or reserve JOHN BULL for me weekly until further notice.

Signature .....

Address .....

Date.....

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This Coupon will be accepted as 2d. in part payment of the "John Bull" 5/- Lever Self-Filler Pen with which is presented FREE a 2/6 Ever-Pointed Pencil. Additional Coupons in any number up to five (six in all), ANY DATES, may be cut from "John Bull" and will be accepted in part payment. Thus you may send six Coupons and p.o. for 4/6 (which includes postage and insurance). Pocket Clip, 3d. extra. Cross cheque/p.o. "& Co." and make payable to "John Bull." State if fine—medium—broad nib required.

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26 'EVERPOINTED' PENCIL FREE!

5 Years' Guarantee with Pen. Money returned if not satisfied.

This Easter, in addition to a 2/6 "Everpointed" Pencil presented Free with each "John Bull" Pen, on all Pens applied for between now and the 30th April we will engrave your name in gold Free.

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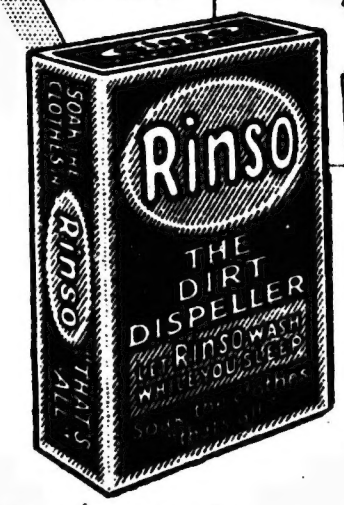
1. They're altering the kitchen range at No. 7, so Mrs. Smith does her washing with Rinso and cold water.

2. They've just installed a new boiler at No. 8, and Mrs. Brown is testing it by giving the white things a boil with Rinso.

3. Nothing unusual has happened at No. 9, and Mrs. Robinson, who is old-fashioned and a dear, washes everything by hand, but she is modern enough to appreciate Rinso.



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washes every way
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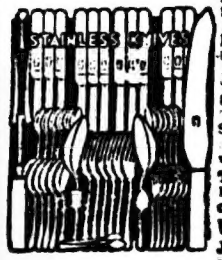

1 pr Double Shear Steel Carvers, Ivorette handles, 6 Stainless Steel Table Knives & 6 Stainless Steel Dessert Knives, Ivory grained handles, 2 Table Spoons 6 Dessert Spoons, 6 Tea Spoons 6 Egg Spoons, 6 Table Forks, 6 Dessert Forks, 1 Sugar Spoon, 1 pr Sugar Tongs 1 Jam Spn. 1 Salt Spn. all of Columbian Silver which wears white throughout. **56 pieces 50/-**

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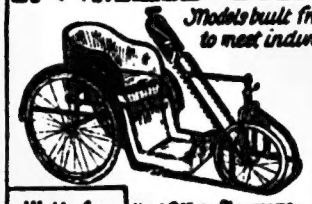

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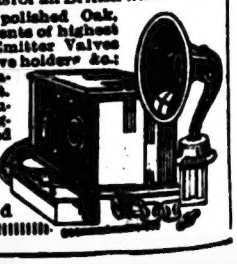
Its volume and quality of tone is unsurpassed and it is the essence of simplicity. Fitted with coils for all British wave-lengths CABINET of polished Oak, and all components of highest quality. Dull Emitter Valves with patent valve holders &c.: H.T. Battery, 2-volt accumulator and complete Aerial Outfit. LOUD SPEAKER of exclusive design with unique magnetic system and improved quick dia- £7:17:6 phragm. Terms: 10/6 now, 10/6 Monthly. Catalogue Post Free.



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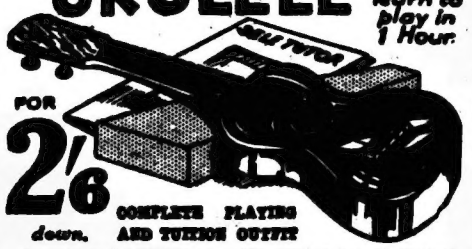
UKULELE *You can learn to play in 1 Hour.*



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Guaranteed by a firm established 30 yrs. Send only 2/- now, pay further 2/- if quite satisfied on receipt, and 5 subsequent monthly payments of 5/- (25/- in all, or 23/- if cash paid in 7 days). Don't hesitate, send to-day, the value's amazing.

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The same day as your 5/- Deposit is received we send you a "Famous Hotspur" Portable Gramophone. If quite satisfied you pay the balance in 12 monthly instalments of 5/- (65/- in all, 5 per cent. discount for cash).

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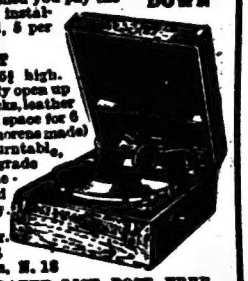

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ACCORDIONS, Jazz Instruments, Violins, Banjos, Mandolines. Catalogue free.—Douglas, 99, King's Chambs., South St., London, E.C.2.

UKULELES, Banjos, Drums, Jazz-Sets, Saxophones, Violins, Mandolins, Gramophones. Lists free—Palmer's, 135, Linthorpe Rd., Middlesbro'.

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REAL Harris and Shetland Homespuns, direct from makers; best quality only; patterns free.—Harris Tweed Depot, 1, James St., Stornoway.

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DON'T Wear a Truss. Use Brooks' Rupture Appliance. New discovery, wonderful, no lumpy pads, no springs, durable, cheap. Binds and draws parts together quickly. Sent on trial. Catalogue free.—Address Brooks Appliance Co., Ltd. 3.8A), 60, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.

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NEW Life to weary, worn-out Nerves. Probyn Nutrient restores health, strength and lost vitality. Send to-day for free trial supply.—B. N. Probyn Laboratories, 116, Pitfright St., London, S.W.19.

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NERVES OF IRON. Nerve Specialist's guaranteed treatment for Neurasthenia, Insomnia, Lost Vitality, Weakness, etc. POTENTOL ends all nerve disorders. Booklet free.—Orde & Co., 40, Regent House, Regent Street, London, W.1.

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RHEUMATISM.—Positive cure revealed to Sufferers free. Results guaranteed.—Laboratory (1), 17, Store Street, W.C.1.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

64-PAGE book about herbs and how to use them, 2d. Send for one.—TRIMNELL, The Herbalist, 144, Richmond Rd., Cardiff. Est. 1879.

DANCES THAT EXCITE DESIRE.—T. B. Partington, the famous Public Health Lecturer, reveals the real meaning of the modern dancing. See this week's "HEALTH & STRENGTH," 3d. all nats., or 4d. post free from J. B. Burt, 54, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.4.

A FREE coupon appears in the Mennen Shaving Cream advt. on page 35, which if sent with 1d. to cover postage and packing will bring readers of *John Bull* two Free tubes (Shaving Cream and Skin Balm).—Address Mennen, J.B.1, c/o Parnett & Johnson, Ltd., 86, Clerkenwell Road, E.C.1.

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The WORLD, *the* FLESH *& the* DEVIL

Fobbing Off.
To hint that a speedy General Election is "pure nonsense" is the latest attempt to head off electors from things that matter. Forewarned is forearmed.

The Red Light.
Of all the ingenious explanations of the two latest by-election results only one is sound. Leith and Southwark are two more warnings to the Government. The country is tired of inaction.

Black Neglect.
One fact stood out in the recent Commons debate on the decline of agriculture. Good or bad, both Opposition Parties have a policy. The Government has none.

Driven Abroad.
According to official reports, no fewer than 44,000 farm labourers have been driven off the land since 1921. Many of these have gone abroad, and the remainder have sought other employment or are swelling the ranks of the unemployed.

Starving the Skilled.
The average agricultural wage in England is 30s. 11d. per week. Is it to be wondered at that skilled land labourers decline to work for such a miserable pittance?

The Drop in the Bucket.
As a result of lessened expenditure on the Middle East, the estimates for Imperial and foreign Services show a reduction of £601,380 on last year's figures. As a sop to the taxpayer it is negligible.

Cleaner Milk.
In 1920 only twenty farmers produced graded milk and there were only fifteen distributors of such food. Last year 381 farmers had toed the line and there were 1,761 distributors, a number still increasing. Education, even in material things, always pays.

Death to Disease.
To attack ill-health at the root is the plan of Denmark and Sweden and even Turkey. In these countries health certificates must be obtained before marriage. The plan is worth considering in this country if vital statistics are any guide.

Commercialised Vice.
The League of Nations, considering means of putting an effective stop to the white slave traffic, believes final success depends upon a strong public opinion in all countries. In other words, every man and woman of a decent mind can help.

The Challenge Thrown.
Lord Cecil's first attack on conscription has missed fire, but no perturbation need be felt. When a long-entrenched evil is to be fought, the first thing is to break the ground.

The Mustard Seed.
Sane thoughts thrown out into the world do not die. Each year more men believe that it's easier to live as friends than enemies. It's cheaper, too.

Getting Ready.
New guns for the Navy can hurl a projectile weighing 2,100 lb. over a distance of twenty miles every minute. With such weapons there should be no difficulty in annihilating humanity.

Where Cost Isn't Counted.
£600,000 is the cost of the new submarine *Oberon*, and more will be needed for her full equipment. It's little use to try to convince the world that submarine warfare is barbarous until practice keeps pace with precept.

Too True!
"Rents," says Sir Kingsley Wood, "are still too high for the poorer members of the community." And houses too few, and opportunities to work non-existent. So what does the Government propose to do about it?

Steam Up.
Full working time has been resumed at the L.N.E.R. engineering works in ten different towns. Twenty thousand men are affected. Thousands of kiddies who last year missed their holidays should be playing by the seaside this summer.

For Fathers.
"Much of the crime committed by youths," says the Governor of Preston Jail, "is attributable to unemployment." Knowing the truth, why doesn't the country insist upon the problem being solved? It could be, if the will was insistent.

For Mothers.
Lack of parental control and discipline during childhood, says the medical officer of Aylesbury Borstal Institution, accounts for intelligent girls getting into trouble. In other words, parents who think that only the body, and not the mind, needs care are simply asking for it.

War's Lesson.
Never has any country had such a hoard of gold as that accumulated by the United States. The Federal Reserve Bank's figures give it as £900,000,000. But for the war a goodly portion of it would have been on our side of the water.

A Sound Move.
Polytechnic institutes, with facilities for learning arts and crafts, are the latest movement toward brighter villages. Nothing could be better. Creative work produces contentment.

"Bullets" Ideal Home Winner!

See page 39 for the Ideal Home Result and "Bullets" Record Easter Offer.

500 "EASTER EGGS" THIS WEEK

Farming Pays If——
At Trengwainton, Penzance, one Guernsey cow has given 2,052 gallons of milk in the year. Put trained people on the land with the right sort of stock to manage, and the food problem would settle itself, even in these islands.

Pipes and Pipes.
Germany and France each submitted tenders to supply Port Elizabeth, Natal, with 7,000 tons of iron pipes, but although the British tender was higher than either, Middlesbrough gets the job. In the long run, quality always tells.

The Wonderful Gift.
£160,000, for a nurses' training school and hostel, has been given to Middlesex Hospital by a donor who remains anonymous. Many who have more don't give any of it. The size of the heart, not the purse, makes the difference.

Fouling the Food.
Vegetables dumped in the roadway where filth can penetrate the heaps is a common sight of London's wholesale markets. The practice must be discontinued. It spreads disease.

Rousing Sleepy-heads.
In Pretoria the bishop asked his sleepy congregation to "please get up and shake themselves." They did. What a pity such a knocker-up can't be retained in the House of Commons.

Congratulations.
The first Cecil lodging-house for women has been opened in London. For 1s. homeless wanderers or workers get a good bed, fire, hot water and cup of tea. That's Christianity.

The Example.
Epsom's new grand stand was built by builders working in shifts twenty-four hours a day and seven days a week. Exactly the sort of zeal we should like to see in building the houses for which there is even more crying need.

Nothing Know, Nothing Do.
Chelmsford leads the way in a course of instruction in clean milk production for sanitary inspectors. It's a good move. Only those who are themselves taught can be relied on to teach.

The Vine and Fig Tree.
More than 71,000 householders have taken advantage of facilities advanced by local authorities to buy their own houses. With cheaper building materials and easy access to the land there would be more.

In Remembrance.
In Malines Cathedral a tablet has been unveiled to commemorate the 1,000,000 British soldiers who fell in the war. Better still if in this country we solved the problem of how to provide for those who did not die.

In the Bakehouse.
When James Henry Lenney, a baker, died in the bakehouse where he worked at Stoke Newington, an underground place, 10 ft. square, his body remained during the night while the work carried on. If there is no law to compel the closing of such a den the law needs altering.

The WORLD, the FLESH & the DEVIL

The Problem of Eleven.

Two rooms and a small attic are all that Ernest Samuel Austin has at Leicester for a home. When he applied to the corporation for a better one he was turned down. Municipal houses are not built for families of eleven! The Housing Committee's "regrets" do not solve Austin's problem. Leicester's business is to provide him with the house his family needs.

The P.M.'s Blunder.

Why does the Prime Minister refuse to receive a deputation from Civil Servants who want to lay before him their objections to the working of the Whitley Council system as it affects Government Departments? Workers seeking a constitutional outlet for their grievances should be encouraged, not snubbed, by the authorities. Mr. Peace-in-our-Time Baldwin blunders most unaccountably now and again.

Brothers All.

By offering his blood for transfusion, first to his nephew, who was too seriously injured to be operated upon, and then on behalf of another patient at the hospital, Driver Nichols, of the L.G.O.C., set himself to prove that where suffering is concerned, blood must not be thought thicker than water. It is not everyone who would do for a stranger the same intimate act they would do for one of their kith and kin.

Poor Prisoners.

The Governor of Holloway Prison doubts the wisdom of granting bail to those with previous convictions. "They sometimes take advantage of their liberty to commit further crimes in order to get money to employ solicitors and counsel," he says. We say it is a scandal that any should be deprived of efficient legal aid owing to lack of means. Poverty has sent many a man and woman to jail.

More Light!

For want of a lamp or two it is very probable that James Nicholas, of Grappenhall, has lost his life. He was drowned while working on Latchford Locks, and the coroner expressed the opinion that the place was insufficiently lighted, a mechanical superintendent stating there ought to be lights on a nearby boom. We sincerely hope that the matter will not be allowed to slide. Human life is surely worth more than the price of lamps.

Sport and Spite.

As the pioneers of sport, we must cherish our good name won on many a playing-field and in many a ring. We hope, therefore, that the £140 damages awarded to Referee Jack Mendall for an assault upon him by Ted Broadribb, a boxing manager, will put an end once and for all to such disgraceful scenes as that witnessed recently at Premierland. When Britons cease to win with modesty and lose without rancour, that day will see the beginning of our national degeneration.

A Gallant Youngster.

A fourteen-year-old Wandsworth lad, Henry Morgan, has achieved the difficult feat of becoming a hero to his schoolfellows, who have just presented him with a clock, in addition to which he was given the Royal Humane Society's bronze medal and certificate. Well did he earn these tokens of admiration by pluckily jumping off Wandsworth Bridge to the rescue of a drowning boy, whom he managed to save. We warrant that Henry will make more noise in the world before he is done.

His Wonderful Love.

A marvellous life story was unfolded at the inquest on John Fazakerley, a Liverpool man of seventy, blind from birth. At twenty he became a lodger with a family in Oakes Street, when shortly afterwards the father died, leaving his widow with thirteen children to provide for. Fazakerley embarked on the self-imposed task of providing for them all, and so diligently did he work that for fifty years he carried on triumphantly. Such a man, with such a handicap, ought to have his statue lifted high for sighted men to look at when they become discouraged.

A Joyful Scheme.

Leeds has hundreds of poor slum kiddies whose mothers have day by day to go out to work, and the Rev. J. G. Sutherland is working to provide for them a "Children's Palace." There is to be a sunshine room and a roof garden. The scheme is to bring some of the joys of heaven to little ones on earth. It is one other cities must copy.

Lawyers and the Poor.

The voluntary work of "poor man's lawyers" up and down the country is a very different thing from the profit-grabbing activities of the various legal aid "societies" recently exposed in these columns. In 1926 no fewer than 14,000 persons in London alone received advice and assistance from lawyers who accepted no fee. A highly creditable record for a much-abused profession.

Callous Legislators.

"Accidental death" was the verdict on poor little five-year-old Edward Howell, Bush Street, Wolverhampton, who died following extensive burns sustained when his flannelette shirt caught fire. The use of this highly inflammable material for wearing apparel should be made illegal, and until it is so the verdict in such cases ought to be "Culpable neglect on the part of the State."

A Great Heart.

One day lately a stranger walked into Alexandra Orphanage, Haverstock Hill. He put down a £100 cheque for the funds. "I am an old boy," he said modestly. "I left here forty-five years ago and I made good. But I owe my success to my training here and this is a proof of my gratitude." His deed is a proof that bread cast upon the waters comes back after many days.

War's Aftermath.

On the anniversary of his son's death in the Great War, Walter Woodger, an aged blacksmith, of Rosebery Villa, Crockford Road, Addlestone, drank poison and died. Year by year the date was kept with increasing heartbreak until at last the tension broke. Insane? Perhaps. But not nearly so insane as those who year by year plan out the war game which every few years kills off the flower of civilisation's youth.

The Human Machine

The Real Man

by E. R. THOMPSON, M.A.

YOU never really know a man until you discover what his real interests are.

The hobby that really interests and enthrals a man is often a complete revelation of a side of his character that none but his most intimate friends suspects.

I met an old gardener the other day. Day in and day out he plies his trade—and he is an expert.

He loves gardens. He loves flowers. He takes a real pride in his work—but his gardening and his flowers are not the chief interest in his life.

His hobby is bell-ringing. Each night he tramps to some country church and rings the peals. He has done so for twenty years.

He can talk about bells with the skill and lore of the expert. His face lights up with enthusiasm as he talks. The bell-ringer is a different man from the gardener!

YOU never know a man until you know all about him—and even then he is apt to surprise you.

Hasty judgments on people are the most dangerous of fallacies. A man's character is like a many-faceted diamond.

How can you judge him justly unless you examine all the facts?

Despise no one. How do you know what knowledge and skill are concealed beneath even the most unpromising material?

Penalised for Poverty.

A working-man who has been compelled to accept Poor Law assistance is legally debarred from standing as a candidate for a local council or board of guardians, even though the relief was granted by way of loan and he has repaid it. This seems wrong. Poverty is a misfortune, not a crime.

Dishonouring the Dead.

It is not fair to doctors to ask them to hold a post-mortem in a shed with the only light coming through the door. Nor is it fair to ask passers-by to run the risk of seeing the doctor examine parts of the body which is also in full view. Yet these conditions exist at Benfleet, Essex, and have for years. Some more suitable place must be found.

A Generous Council.

The Scunthorpe and Frodingham Urban District Council recently advertised for a clerk, male or female. Proficiency in shorthand and typewriting and the provision of two undeniable testimonials were essential. The lucky applicant will have the magnificent salary of 25s. per week. Rates should be low at Scunthorpe.

A Wrong Order.

In many colliery districts dogs are the close companions of men compelled to spend their days in dark mines. What the dogs mean to the men cannot have been realised by the owners of the model colliery village of Llay, or the order that they must be banished after this year would not have been issued. To deny the men their pets is wrong, and the order must be withdrawn.

Be Merciful!

The Commissioners and Directors of Prisons deprecate the value of short sentences, which they claim in their report merely gives an offender the "prison taint" and a desire for revenge. At Wakefield prison an extensive training scheme eliminates the short-sentence man, with the result that out of 628 men discharged only ninety-eight have been reconvicted. Justice operates better when tempered with mercy.

The Worst Feature.

A married woman of Walsall, Minnie Smith, forty-four, living at North Street, was fined £10 or twenty-one days for stealing goods from Lewis, Ltd., and Woolworth's. What the magistrate described as the worst feature of the case was the fact that she took her child with her on these pilfering expeditions. A sense of shame, if nothing else, should at least prompt a mother to hide her wrongdoing from her innocent offspring.

Small Beginnings.

In 1868 the Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society was started by William Price, a dock worker, on a capital of £8 and a membership of forty-seven. To-day its membership is 150,000, and the annual turnover £5,000,000. The founder, who is eighty-four, now lives in Michigan, U.S.A., and at the recent opening of the Commonwealth Buildings, Woolwich, a congratulatory message was sent to him. The amazing progress is proof of what can be achieved by wise co-operation.

The Happy Way.

Miss Cossey is an enterprising woman who gives up one afternoon a week to take a voluntary cookery class in Holloway Prison. From sixteen to eighteen women attend and are allowed to eat the simple food they prepare. Food values are discussed and prisoners are allowed to take notes. "I was in prison and ye visited me not" is a phrase that could never be applied to Miss Cossey, who has hit upon a happy method of breaking up the deadly monotony of prison life.

The Job's—Done.

"A fine workman—a real gentleman!" Such was the verdict of the employer of Mr. Alfred Caffyn, known locally as "the robeless Mayor of Stepney." When he entered Collins' upholstery works, fifty-five years ago, he adopted the motto: "One more tack in the corner and the job's done." The whole district is now mourning the passing of this fine old character, who probably exercised a greater influence for good than any resident of them all.

Emigrant's Sufferings.

Would-be emigrants to Australia or other colonies should be wary of taking at their face value the representations of emigration agents. Frederick Arkley, aged twenty-six, who sought fortune in Australia, had had nothing to eat for two days, and prior to that had obtained sustenance from garbage tins when he was arrested for vagrancy. Look before you leap should be the motto.

Not Worthy of Miners.

Eight hundred miners at Castletown, dissatisfied with the terms of the strike settlement, decided to live on the "dole." Then the masters applied to the employment exchange for men, and as the strikers refused the official offer of work, their "dole" has been stopped. In view of the fact that work is better than idleness, and increased production means in time higher wages, we haven't a jot of sympathy for these loafers.

Arm-chair Methods.

For eighteen hours Sergeant Fred Ingham, of the R.A.F., Uxbridge, was detained before a charge was made against him. This charge, of stealing two arm-chairs, the property of the Air Ministry, was dismissed at Uxbridge Police Court. The R.A.F. wanted the Bench to hand the case over to them, but this was refused. A civil charge must be heard in a civil court, and the methods of bringing this one must not be repeated.

The Level-crossing Peril.

If we must have level-crossings, at least they should be so constructed that when the road is open signals should automatically pull up an oncoming train. At Billingham, near Stockton-on-Tees, the Newcastle express dashed into a brick-laden motor-lorry, severely injuring two men, whose escape from death was miraculous. Cannot mechanical ingenuity safeguard us against such disquieting accidents?

His Criminal Past.

Terrible was the scene at Kingston police court when for the first time Mrs. Williams, of Hollydale, Waverley Road, Weybridge, wife of a dentist's mechanic, learned that her husband was an habitual criminal. She provided him with money to set up in business which he spent on horse-racing, and he now goes again to jail for theft, leaving her and her little girl stranded. Yet she is tied for life to the deceiver. A case for alteration of the law, if ever there was one.

Paying for It.

William Turner, a milk dealer, of Bridge Street, Wednesbury, will have more respect for the law in days to come. Though the rate of wages of an employee named Allen should have reached 47s. 6d., he was paid the starvation sum of £1 per week. Not only was Turner ordered to make up the arrears—£105 9s. 7d.—to the tune of £20 a month, but he was fined £5 and 61s. 4d. costs for the offence, and 20s. on each of two other charges. What have his customers to say?

A Deserved Rebuke.

"Very disgraceful," was the way in which Mr. Knight, prosecuting for the police, described the conduct of George Swiney Miller, a man of forty-one, who deemed it amusing to annoy women in the West End. He would step in front of a woman, put his hands on her shoulders and make insulting remarks. Now, he has had to produce two sureties of £100 each to keep the peace for six months. It may teach him that though a man may be Swiney by name, he needn't be so by nature.

No Place Like Home.

An ex-Borstal boy, committed for trial on a charge of theft, told the court how the Borstal treatment he had been given did him no good. He said the atmosphere of the place reeked with crime; the boys talked so much of how they went wrong and were going wrong again. It is too often the defect of institutions that exist to prevent crime that they become its breeding-ground. It is up to all parents and guardians to remember that the proper training school for children in moral matters is the home.

Keep Your Fees.

The London Financial Service, Limited, 69, Fleet Street, London, E.C., is again sending out circulars offering to turn businesses into limited liability companies—of course, at a price. To the recipients of these our only advice is to keep their fees in their pockets.

A Yankee Dodger.

A West Hartlepool reader, who has sent money to M. Trilety, of Binghamton, N.Y., U.S.A., for a "limb-straightener appliance," has not been able to get satisfaction. Despite his advice to this not to be "skeptical," we again urge that M. Trilety should be left severely alone.

A Danish Offer.

Rasmussen and Co. of Copenhagen are busy sending out circulars and tickets in connection with a Danish lottery. By painting fanciful pictures of the wealth going begging, this firm hopes to cajole remittances from the unwary. It declares this the best of all money lotteries. Doubtless, it is—for Rasmussen and Co.

The Old Game.

A Wolverhampton business man, being in need of £120 to extend his business, answered the advertisement of C. Jones, 19, Temple Street, Birmingham. An agent called, inspected the furniture, an "enquiry fee" of three guineas was paid and the loan refused. Two enquiries as to what amount he would advance have been ignored. It is an old and reprehensible game.

Home-work Profits.

The National Confectionery Industry, Kent House, 87, Regent Street, London, W., advertise a course of instruction in confectionery manufacturing as a profitable system of home work. Mrs. A. M. Hegarty, of 85, St. Alban's Road, Edinburgh, paid five guineas for the instruction, but declares that without allowing for the cost of labour, gas, etc., she found she could not make it pay. Offers of home employment should be very carefully scrutinised.

Who is to Blame?

A small and highly strung boy named Juett had the bone of his forearm severely bent, and Dr. Urquahart, of Shepperton, who attended the case immediately after the accident, decided that the injury was too severe for him to deal with without an anæsthetic, and sent the boy to the Royal Hospital, Richmond, Surrey. The operation was carried out there—not by Dr. Urquahart—without an anæsthetic of any description, causing the boy a great deal of suffering. An explanation by the hospital authorities seems imperative.

Disabled Man Duped.

G. H. Woke, a 100 per cent. disabled man, is the latest victim of the "block" ramp. Struggling for a living with a small furniture business, he allowed a representative of the Fleet Hammond Publishing Co., 22, Northumberland Avenue, W.C., to take a photograph of a table for publication in *House Estate and Furnishing Notes*, and agreed to buy the block. He is now faced with a bill for £5 10s. *Town and Country News*, of Kingsway, London, is developing the same sort of scheme. Beware of offers of free publicity.

Investment Snares.

The employment-with-investment snare, in spite of our repeated warnings, is still being exploited. Crabtree and Co. (proprietor P. Joseph), of 112, New Oxford Street, W.C., have in two instances recently, by our intervention, been prevented from securing sums of £150 on the pretext of giving employment in a West End estate-agency business with a view to future partnership. Mr. W. L. Thorpe, described as an estate and transfer agent, of 43, Villiers Street and 412, New Cross Road, has recently been associated with Joseph. He should choose better company.

"JOHN BULL" PAYS
142 MORE CHEQUES to Registered Readers
See page 2.

Problems of Life

A Desert Greeting

by the Rev. R. J. CAMPBELL, D.D.

A FEW weeks ago I was able to fulfil a long-cherished desire of penetrating into the Sahara desert and making acquaintance with the habits of life of the people who dwell in that picturesque but arid region.

Dr. R. J. Campbell

It was a memorable experience in many ways.

One can hardly imagine a greater contrast than that between the stillness and immensity of the desert spaces and the rush and roar of London.

What the Sahara tribesmen were thousands of years ago, that their descendants are to-day.

Some of their customs are incomprehensible to us; some repellent; others attractive.

One I noticed particularly.

It was that whenever my caravan met an Arab alone or in company the latter made a curious and rather graceful gesture in salutation.

He would raise his right hand to the level of his forehead and hold it there for a moment or two, keeping the open palm turned towards us.

He accompanied this action by saying something in a sing-song tone—we did not know what.

I THOUGHT this very polite and friendly, and later on I said so to a person who knew these nomads well.

"How dignified and courteous their manners are!" I remarked. "Just look at that stately pose and that uplifted hand!"

He laughed.

"Do you know what that means?" he said. "They are safeguarding themselves against the evil eye. They stick the hand up and utter a formula which is supposed to repel the malignant spirits you may be carrying with you."

This was a damper indeed.

So far from intending to pay me a compliment the handsome Arab in his flowing robes was crediting me with being a possible emissary of the devil and, therefore, to be kept at a distance.

But on reflection I realised that we so-called civilised Europeans habitually take much the same attitude towards one another after all.

We do not raise the hand and mutter charms against the evil eye, but we go through life armed against our fellows and gazing out upon them from behind bars.

We are always on guard, always watching lest we be taken at a disadvantage.

WE are afraid of giving ourselves away: never dare to say all we think; wear a mask, as it were, in our social and business dealings with other people.

Is this right? Is it the proper way to live?

Not so. A self-respecting reserve is one thing and secretiveness born of fear is quite another.

Let us cultivate the charity that thinketh no evil and rejoiceth in the truth.

It is but rarely that a kindly candour fails to evoke its like.

Wish your neighbour well and you make him your friend.

GIGANTIC INSURANCE CRASH

A FOUR MILLION POUNDS SCANDAL

Directors' Deplorable Conduct

THERE has been a protracted delay in winding up the affairs of the City Life Assurance Company. It is now something like four years ago since this company went into liquidation.

The company at the time it came to grief had liabilities returned at £1,374,599, but this amount was arrived at by assessing all outstanding policies at their surrender value only.

Had these policies been taken at their face value the liabilities would have been increased to the huge figure of something like £4,000,000!

This colossal financial tragedy directly affected an army of between sixty and seventy thousand creditors, many of them thrifty souls of the artisan and middle classes.

Modest beginning

Originally the company was known as the British Homes Assurance Corporation and commenced operations with a modest nominal capital of £500.

At first business was confined to a house-endowment scheme, in which subscribers were at the end of a stipulated period given assistance to build or buy a house. Ultimately, its scope was enlarged to embrace life assurance and the title was changed.

The scope of the company being thus enlarged, its nominal capital was increased from £500 to £500,000.

About the end of 1918 there were signs that everything was not quite as it should be, and by the spring of 1922 the accounts disclosed a highly unsatisfactory state of affairs.

There was delay in issuing accounts, and the Board of Trade had twice to invoke the assistance of the law to induce the directors to file a balance-sheet.

On one occasion a fine of £200 and costs was imposed, clearly showing what the authorities thought of the manner in which the company was being conducted.

Notwithstanding the position at this time, the company continued business and added to its liabilities by enrolling new policy-holders. The Board of Trade then took a hand.

Straight tip

It was powerless to compel a cessation of business, but it was of opinion that a meeting of shareholders should be called, and that in the meantime the company should cease to incur fresh responsibilities.

These wise counsels were, unfortunately, resisted, and it was clear that while the Board of Trade was anxious about the position it was powerless to prevent the company from continuing to do business.

Had the shareholders been called together to consider the position, one of the things they would have discovered would have been that as far back as 1917 there was a deficiency of the large sum of £158,000. To cope with this the directors in 1920 decided to seek fresh capital.

This led to some highly curious proceedings. Two gentlemen named Leonard Aldridge and Kenton Redgrave appeared on the scene with an undertaking to introduce something like £160,000.

Under this arrangement the old directors of the company retired, Aldridge and Redgrave becoming

Mr. H. E. Burgess, O.B.E., Senior Official Receiver

members of a new board of directors, which also included Sir Sidney Lea, Lord Hampton, Sir Beddoe Rees, J. B. Maclean and A. C. Turner.

Making fresh liabilities

A banker's draft for £160,000 was forthcoming and shares were allotted. Then an extraordinary resolution was passed by the newly constituted board to the effect that the sum of £160,000 should be invested in another concern called the United General Commercial Insurance Corporation in order to secure a controlling interest in that company.

The effect was that, instead of the new capital being employed in wiping off some of the liabilities, it was used to purchase fresh ones, for some of the money was really employed in relieving Redgrave of an understanding he and others had entered into to take up a quarter of a million shares in the United General concern, and in refunding a sum of £15,000 invested in the United General by a firm called L. Aldridge and Co., Ltd.

Why were Redgrave and the Aldridge Company so anxious to part with these holdings?

The United General Commercial Insurance Corporation had only been formed four months prior to this amazing business. Aldridge was its leading light, while Sir Sydney Lea, Lord Hampton, Sir Beddoe Rees, A. C. Turner and J. B. Maclean were amongst its directors.

The United General Commercial Insurance Corporation was formed by Aldridge to take over another concern which he had operated, the United Sickness and Accident General Insurance Co., Ltd., a company which had never done much business and was almost derelict.

One of the first actions of the directors of the United General Commercial Insurance Corporation was to pay £125,000 for this moribund Scottish concern, of which £31,000 was in hard cash.

In connection with financing this concern Aldridge drew some £10,000 in commission alone.

Ultimately, the United General Commercial Insurance Corporation went into liquidation with a deficiency of £500,000.

Useful asset

When Aldridge was appointed managing director of the City Life Assurance Company he was paid £1,000 a year plus a minimum of £1,000 in commission and £1,200 expenses.

In the summer of 1920 the board, which no longer included Sir Beddoe Rees, authorised a loan to Aldridge of £21,000 on the security of certain shares and jewellery. Further loans followed and he eventually gave the company a cheque for more than £60,000.

This repayment took place at the end of the financial year, which enabled the belated balance-sheet to show an amount of £60,000 as cash in hand and at bank.

This amount could not have been in hand for a period of more than two days, for on the second day of the new year a loan of more than £60,000 was made to a business associate of Aldridge on the security of the same jewellery. This was subsequently paid back.

The company then lent £30,000 to a man named Graham, still holding the same jewellery and some shares as security. This amount was still outstanding at the time of the liquidation.

Rent mystery

Aldridge's services with the City Life were eventually terminated and he was paid £3,750 as compensation for the loss of his office. He was still permitted to remain as managing director "as a temporary measure." During this period he was loaned a further £2,073 which has never been repaid.

There is some mystery about the rent of the City Life Offices. This was paid by the company to Aldridge, in whose name the lease stood. For the first year the amount was £1,500, rising to £3,000 for the second year, and to £5,000 subsequently.

The premises also housed the other Aldridge concern, the United General, the directors of which were largely the same as in the City Life.

What explanation have the directors to give of their very peculiar behaviour? Their methods could have led to very little else but disaster, and it is certainly their duty to give to the shareholders and poor deluded policy-holders any reasons they may have had for pursuing such a deplorable course of action.

A Vindictive Sentence

Wilting Worker Sent to Jail

"I CAN assure you that the poor fellow has been looking for work without success and at the time of his arrest was still unemployed, and I may say that he has always held a good character and comes of a most respectable family."

This is how a man of standing in Tewkesbury describes John David Bourton, a labourer of the district, who, on March 10 last, was sentenced to one month's hard labour at Abercarn for deserting his children.

Before this happened, John Bourton had withstood the bludgeonings of fate with the sturdy courage of his breed.

While he was temporarily employed as a surfaceman at Newbridge, Mon., his wife became ill and was bedridden for two years.

The weary tramp

During this time, John Bourton worked hard for a scanty wage during the day and tended his sick wife in the evenings.

He had to get up early to get breakfast for his four children and often he would sit up all night watching by the bedside of the woman who hovered between life and death.

In the early spring of last year Mrs. Bourton died and in the following May the general strike came and John Bourton was thrown out of work.

He tramped the countryside looking for work, but eventually he gave his children into the care of the Newport Guardians and set out to face the world alone.

The strike was over when John Bourton decided to part with the children who were so dear to him. He was desperate to find employment, and he wanted to pay the guardians for his children's keep.

So he tramped to his native town of Tewkesbury. But, although everybody was very kind to him, there was no work for him to do. Every available job was filled and after many months of searching and waiting, his spirit was almost broken.

Discredit to justice

The last blow fell when he was arrested and charged with deserting his children.

When he appeared before the magistrates at Abercarn, he was too heartbroken to tell his story and the case against him was easily proved.

The guardians said that he owed them £70 for their maintenance of his four children for six months. He was sentenced to one month's imprisonment without saying a word in his defence.

We notice that this debt is put down at £70. This works out at nearly £3 a week, which is supposed to be more than enough to keep a miner and his family.

But whether or not the debt is unreasonable, the sentence is certainly vindictive, and must reflect lasting discredit on a country which prides itself on its justice and humanity.

A WICKED GRAB

DOWN ON BREAKBACK FARM

Ex-Service Men's Hopeless Struggle

SOMETHING over two miles south-west of Winchester, there is an elevated plateau of about one hundred acres in extent which for many years before the war was a barren waste known locally as "Oliver's Battery."

According to legend, Oliver Cromwell once had a battery of artillery on this spot, the official name for which is Compton Pitt Corner.

During the war, Compton Pitt Corner was a cavalry camp. Long rows of stables were erected here on solid concrete foundations. After the war the stables were demolished, but the foundations were left embedded in the stony, chalky ground.

The Southampton County Council then conceived a brilliant idea for reclaiming this land. Under the Land Settlement Scheme for returned heroes, it divided the land into lots and erected Army huts on several of them.

The walls of the huts were roughly cemented, fireplaces were fitted and water laid on. Twenty-three ex-Service men then became tenants of these holdings.

Some of them received grants of about £100, some were disabled men with permanent pensions, and others had neither grant nor pension.

Heart-breaking job

As might have been expected, some of the settlers failed utterly in their enterprise. The land, barren and unfertile, was littered with accumulated *debris* of the long war years. Great masses of concrete had to be broken and torn up.

Plough-shares have been broken in turning over the ground, which is sown literally with stones. The soil is of the poorest kind. The miserable huts are exposed to the four winds of heaven.

To lot No. 15 in the official conception of Paradise came Percy Kenneth Beck with his wife and two children in August, 1922. Beck was a prisoner of war in Germany for four years after he had won the distinguished conduct medal.

His capital consisted of four years' Army pay that had accrued during that time, plus a gratuity of £20.

After many months of hard and unremitting toil, Beck cleared away all the concrete footings of the cavalry stables and set to work to cultivate the ground.

Impossible demands

To earn a livelihood while he was doing this he worked at road-making for the county council. He also purchased a horse and cart and established a carrying business.

In a year or two a third child came, and Beck struggled all the harder to wrest from the barren land the extra produce that meant bread for the hungry little mouths. His heroic efforts were to be in vain.

In August, 1925, when the land had been reclaimed and placed under cultivation, the Small Holdings Committee of the Hampshire Agricultural Committee announced that it was prepared to sell the holdings to the tenants, either outright or by instalments.

The price asked from Beck for the holding and the hut was £276, the value of the land, three and a half acres in extent, being put at £40 per acre.

To find the £60 necessary to purchase on the instalment plan, Beck would have been obliged to sell some of his stock or borrow the money on it. He found that the land would be his in name only for the twenty years over which the instalments would be spread.

Staggering blow

The proposed sale contract contained so many vexatious restrictions that he elected to remain a tenant.

But peace of mind and security were gone. His settlement on the land had been disturbed.

By skilful husbandry he had made the ground yield slightly larger crops of oats and potatoes each year. His grassland, too, was improving. His agreement with the county council ensured his "peaceable and quiet enjoyment" of the holding year by year.

It also provided that if the county council desired to resume possession of the holding he should be entitled to compensation.

A month ago the blow fell. Beck was advised that his holding had been sold, part to one man and the remainder to another. The new owners have told him that they want to take over the holding as soon as he clears out.

He has built up a business in the neighbourhood, and is now facing the fact that five years' hard work have been thrown away.

Beck very reasonably points out that he would not have undertaken to reclaim this land had he known that there was any possibility of his being disturbed.

The council are doubtless within the law. The letter of the agreement

Corporal Beck, D.C.M.

with the settlers has been observed. But we say without hesitation that the spirit of it has been violated.

There is the woman's side of the question, too. The wives have not only seen their husbands slave like horses for five years, they have had to bear the yoke equally with them.

Reasonable question

Now their security has been taken, and Corporal Beck, D.C.M., asks, "Cannot the Government be reminded of a few of the promises they made to the men who fought?"

They have been reminded many times. They are spoiling for a reminder of a kind that will take their jobs away from them.

But that will not help Mr. and Mrs. Beck. And the Agricultural Committee of the county of Hampshire will continue to hold their little meetings in smiling complacency. Land of hope and glory!

BONUS AND BOUNCE

ANOTHER TEA-BUYING RAMP

WE have from time to time had occasion to warn the public to be on their guard against schemes designed to obtain customers, generally of a class who have precious little to lose.

The latest variation of this hoary dodge is being exploited with considerable success in the working-class districts of Leyton and Walthamstow.

The firm concerned is styled Collinson Brothers, tea, coffee and cocoa dealers, Clock House Chambers, Barking.

The method of procedure is the old one of flooding the district with agents who make all kinds of glowing promises to secure customers.

Agents' victims

Recently, girl canvassers descended on the industrial district of East London, particularly in the Leyton and Walthamstow areas.

They offered tea for sale at 3s. per lb., and cocoa at 2s. 2d., and made promises to various prospective customers that at the end of eight weeks they would receive a bonus.

Having fallen victims to the loquacity of the agents, the victims subsequently find on reading a circular from Messrs. Collinson that the firm is particularly careful to repudiate the specious promises of its appointed agents, one clause stating: "Please note: Any statement not in accordance with this circular is not authoritative, and we cannot be held responsible."

A long wait

Many people after purchasing tea and cocoa regularly for a period of two years, have still to whistle for their bonuses.

We have a sample of the tea sold at 3s. per lb. which we have submitted to an expert, and in view of his report we should consider it dear if we were asked to pay 1s. 6d. per lb. for it.

The cocoa priced at 2s. 2d. is of no better quality than can be purchased at a lower figure from other firms.

We have received a large number of complaints on this matter and have a sheaf of signed declarations bearing out the statement that the agents promised a bonus in eight weeks. Some bonuses have been paid, but in many cases not under a period of at least twelve months.

Mrs. Duncan, of 36, Clacton Road, Walthamstow, took half a pound of tea and a quarter of a pound of cocoa weekly from July 3, 1925, to January, 1927, in the hope of receiving a bonus.

Her husband, suspecting the genuineness of the scheme, then stopped it and wrote repeated letters and even sent telegrams to Collinson Brothers to secure the bonus due.

Nothing doing!

In their first communication Messrs. Collinson state: "We cannot tell anyone when their bonus will be paid, all customers being paid in strict rotation."

In the second communication they wrote: "We beg to inform you that your name has been struck off our rotation ledger as it is now four weeks since you dropped taking our tea and cocoa."

As we have previously advised, readers would do well to steer clear of all bonus or similar schemes associated with the sale of tea and similar commodities.

All these promises of something-for-nothing should be religiously avoided.

Free advertisement

The pity is that the persons most usually attracted by these practices are poor widows or poverty-stricken mothers of large families, who are only too glad to seize any opportunity of assistance in solving the hard and ever-present problem of making both ends meet.

In the circular sent to their customers we notice that Messrs. Collinson state: "Most firms spend large sums of money advertising in the newspapers. Collinson Brothers do not advertise in any newspapers whatever, but distribute the money amongst their customers."

We hope they will appreciate the advertisement we are giving them for nothing—the only way they could get one published in JOHN BULL.

A Gross Injustice

A Conviction to Quash

JUDGING from the particulars of a recent case at Chorley, Lancashire, we cannot commend the school authorities either on humanity or a sense of justice.

Edith Berry, a child of fourteen, of Park Road, Adlington, Chorley, was confined to bed from March to July, 1926, with rheumatic fever.

She was after a time examined by the school doctor, who said the poor child was not to play, dance, skip or get wet, but suggested that she might for a change return to school.

She returned, collapsed after two and a half days, and was in bed under medical care for a further fortnight. The school attendance officer then appeared on the scene and was told that Edith was not fit.

A summons was, however, issued against the father at the Chorley police-court, and a fine of 10s. imposed.

At the hearing the school attendance authorities did not see fit to call the medical officer.

That gentleman afterwards wrote to the father that he was not aware that the attendance officer had told the Bench that his report said that Edith was all right, as he had a note to the effect that she had heart disease.

He made another examination and gave a certificate stating, " I find that Edith Berry in addition to her heart disease is suffering from mild chronic tonsilitis and requires attention."

We direct the attention of the Home Secretary to this case. Justice demands that the conviction should be quashed and the fine refunded.

His Sacrifice

Brother's Terrible Handicap

MR. A. R. DAVIS, of 2/38, Rawlins Street, Ladywood, Birmingham, is suffering great mental anguish owing to his inability, caused largely by his physical infirmities, to secure employment to maintain his wife and young family.

For some time he has been receiving the " dole " at the rate of 27s. per week, but shortly he will be out of benefit and the future looks black.

In July, 1912, Davis, accompanied by a cousin and younger brother, was fishing in the canal at Tyburn when the brother climbed a wall and then went up a ladder leading to a cage containing a live wire.

Davis bolted after him and came into contact with a live wire of 6,000 volts.

Davis sustained a fracture of the skull, his right arm had to be amputated, his left arm was paralysed, his knee permanently injured, and for twelve months he lay in hospital.

He is only able to write by holding the pen in his mouth and his liabilities now include a wife and three little children.

We sincerely hope that some kind-hearted employer in his neighbourhood will come to his assistance with the offer of employment within the scope of his limited capabilities.

THE ILLEGAL HERO

MINISTRY'S STRANGE ADVICE

Red Tape Wins

THE ways of Government Departments are past understanding. Humanity and justice seem out of their ken. But surely they must prevail in this case

WHEN a man is fighting for his country and is prompted to perform an act of heroism, he should leave the field in order to take legal advice on whether, in the event of his becoming seriously incapacitated through his bravery, he is eligible for a pension!

This at least is the golden advice of the Ministry of Pensions, if we judge from the tragic case of Major James Robertson Grant, R.A.F., of Beauchamp Road, East Molesey, who died the other day from wounds received eight years ago in the execution of his duty.

In March, 1919, Major Grant was engaged in destroying old bombs which were lying about his depôt, and which he considered endangered the lives of his men. He picked up a twenty-pound shell and it exploded with terrible consequences.

The official way

His limbs were severely injured and he lost his left eye. For eleven months he was in different hospitals undergoing treatment.

Naturally he applied for a pension, as no one can live on heroism alone. Imagine his dismay when an official reply to his application was received, stating that it was not part of his duty to destroy bombs.

This was severe disillusionment for Major Grant. He did not worry the War Office with his claims any more. Perhaps he was too proud.

" Not part of his duty to destroy bombs "! True, it may not have appeared in the orders for the day; it was a duty which emanated from a much deeper and more human source.

A few days ago Mrs. Grant told the coroner who held the inquest on her husband's death as a result of his wounds: " My husband always said he was destroying bombs for the sake of the safety of his men. *He saw to the destruction himself on account of the danger.*"

He exceeded his duty, in fact. This we suppose would be the official way of putting the matter.

It was the sad honour of a representative of JOHN BULL to call upon Mrs. Grant at her home at East Molesey the other day. Chatting with Mrs. Grant, she told him of her husband.

Widow's tragic plight

Major Grant was a civil engineer by profession and joined up at the outbreak of war in 1914. He was not at first in the Air Service, but joined it later.

He was in France when the accident happened, and his wife was waiting word to join him for a brief period, as he expected to move to Cologne.

With the transfer it was hoped would come his promotion from Major to Lieut.-Colonel. The word Mrs. Grant did receive was to the effect that her husband was lying in a staff hospital, seriously ill.

Ever after his discharge from hospital, Major Grant complained of painful headaches. As events showed later, these were caused by the presence of fragments of metal embedded in his skull.

Apart from that, he was an entirely healthy man, and but for these fragments of metal he would have been alive to-day.

The plight of an officer's widow is often extremely hard. We think that in this instance it is nothing short of tragic.

Major Grant tried several different kinds of work before he died. Too often he found his health would not stand the strain:

Major J. R. Grant

The agony the pains in his head occasioned him was a dreadful augury of the impending tragedy.

He suffered also from loss of memory. His infirmities limited him, for a long time, to casual employment. Latterly, however, Major Grant conceived the idea of forming a wireless business in a town near his home. He had put all his energy into the project.

A fearful price

But it was not to be. He was taken ill on the Saturday before the Monday on which he intended opening the business and passed away on the Tuesday.

And now, without a pension, Mrs. Grant finds herself in very serious straits. There is a family of three boys. The eldest, aged nine, is now at a well-known public school. He may have to be taken away.

While the proud mother talked with our representative a sound of scuffling was heard outside. The door opened and a fine boy of four rushed in and began volubly to inform his mother that his young brother, a chubby rascal of two years, had been up to some mischievous prank.

One felt that the blissful ignorance of childhood was a godsend in that sad home!

What is to become of these three sons of a brave man? Their father gave all to his country and was unrewarded. Have his widow and children to go on paying the price?

We ask the Minister of Pensions in the name of humanity to reconsider the strange decision of eight years ago. His failure to do so would create a precedent no nation with the prestige of Great Britain could afford to have on record.

Rooking the Housekeeper

An Alluring Advertisement

HUNDREDS of women must have answered an alluring advertisement reading: " Housekeeper required, bachelor gentleman, £1 weekly.—Wellington, Sea View Terrace, Uphill, Weston-super-Mare." This has appeared in a large number of newspapers.

Applicants received a carbon copy of a typewritten circular letter from an agency which claimed to be an old-established concern.

Take your choice

The proprietress (a " Mrs. Morgan ") intimated that " the gentleman has not engaged a housekeeper and I can recommend the post. He is a bachelor and is anxious to engage a reliable trustworthy housekeeper to take full control of the house."

Every applicant was asked to forward 3s. 6d. booking fee before she could be put into communication with " Mr. Parkin."

If her engagement by that gentleman did not materialise, other bachelors and widowers appeared to be queued up on " Mrs. Morgan's " waiting-list, all offering " very comfortable posts."

" Mrs. Morgan's " business activities, however, have been made the subject of investigation. There is no registry office at the address given; it is merely a private house of working-class character.

The woman in residence who answers enquirers " knows nothing," but offers to give a message to " her husband," who is always said to be " out " to the deluded applicants.

As, however, letters appear to be collected daily and presumably taken to Bristol, this journey may account for his frequent absence.

From " Mrs. Morgan's " speciously worded circular, one would imagine vacancies for housekeepers were difficult to fill, and that applicants merely had to register their names, select a number of prospective employers, and take their choice!

A mean business

As a matter of fact, the woman who is struggling to find a situation knows only too well the keen competition she has to face.

A genuine employment agency rarely charges more than 1s. registration fee to domestic workers, and many such agencies are free.

Weeks ago, a reader wrote asking for *bona fides* and whether it was a properly registered agency.

In spite of the fact that the circular letter states " References sent if desired," our reader's queries remain unanswered.

The position of the unemployed domestic is serious enough without her being at the mercy of bogus employment agencies.

There is a glaring weakness in our present registration of employment bureaux which should be remedied, thereby making it impossible for sharks to extract fees from unsuspecting women who can so ill afford to lose their hard-earned savings.

A HEARTLESS CROOK

MORLEY MORE OR LESS

Company-monger's Shameless Record

As cigars should never be judged by the picture on the box, so its articles of association are no criterion of the standing of a company. Were it otherwise, Samson and McNeil, Ltd., would be an extremely big noise in the financial world.

This company, the fortunes of which are intimately bound up with a man whose latest name is G. A. Morley, was incorporated to carry out all kinds of activities of practically unlimited variety.

Its scope ranged from house and insurance agency to the production of newspapers; from building to dealing in precious stones and pawnbroking; from the transferring of businesses to selling beer, wine, spirits and tobacco; from the production of operas to acting as bill-posters, and so on.

There is no record of any outstanding successes in any of these lines during the firm's existence of twenty years, and for the last few years, at any rate, its secretary, G. A. Morley, has been devoting his attention to one of the few activities not mentioned in the articles of association—that of mug-catching.

Fine imagination

Mr. Morley, writing on the note paper of Samson and McNeil, and describing himself as secretary and treasurer of "The Promotion Syndicate," has been pestering the shareholders in a number of well-known concerns to send him money for investment in wealth-producing schemes of which he had control.

Doubtless these schemes did possess potentialities for the amassing of wealth—for Mr. Morley. Vain regrets would probably be the only dividends available for the victims duped by the optimistic eloquence of his highly imaginative circulars, in the preparation of which he is now quite an expert.

Morley first sent out circulars soliciting financial aid to exercise certain options he had obtained for the purchase of valuable tea and tobacco estates in India.

Apparently, the assistance of an up-to-date magical carpet was invoked, for in his next lot of circulars the tea and tobacco estates had been transported to Nyassaland.

The personal touch

The option of Morley's appears to have been an extremely comprehensive one, for the third time he approaches possible clients he does so by an unsolicited offer of a glorious opportunity to participate with him in the formation of a company to "acquire the valuable rubber, tin, tea and tobacco estates in the famous Malay, Assam, Burma and Nigeria districts."

His usual form of opening was: "Your name has been given to me among other shareholders in the—— who are interested in a syndicate which is being formed, and which we thought you might like to join."

Having put the matter on the basis of doing a personal favour, Morley went on in the usual style of his class to give promises of fabulous profits.

We have had something to say of Morley before in connection with the British and Colonial Promotion Syndicate, which he operated from offices in Cannon Street, and which promised "golden harvests" from tea and tobacco estates.

In that case, a King's Bench action resulted in Morley, who did not go into the witness-box, having to refund moneys obtained from one of his victims.

Morley has been associated in many names with many questionable proceedings. He is an undischarged bankrupt, and recently appeared before Mr. Registrar Francke at the London Bankruptcy Court.

He did not appear as Morley, but modestly sought to hide his association with that individual by adopting the name of George Beverley.

Beverley, alias Morley, was originally known as Isaac Isaacs. He changed his name to Beverley by deed poll in March, 1914. Still, with or without reason, anyone is entitled to fall out with his own name and change it. In this case there was ample reason.

Unenviable record

Just before becoming Beverley, Isaacs had the painful experience of being adjudged bankrupt in the High Court with a deficiency of nearly £3,000. No dividend was paid, and he obtained his discharge subject to a suspension of two years and six months.

During his latest failure the question arose of some of his syndicate-promotion schemes, and Beverley made out that he had been given shares in some of the alleged options on land in Nyassaland and West Africa, in return for services rendered. What the services were we do not know.

Sir Archibald Bodkin, K.C.B., Public Prosecutor

Some of the creditors in the present bankruptcy were purchasers of these worthless shares. In some instances writs were issued on the ground that money had been obtained by fraud and misrepresentation and judgment obtained, but those judgments have never been satisfied.

At the conclusion of Morley's bankruptcy proceedings, Mr. Registrar Francke made some very severe comments on his methods.

In view of this, and of the facts we have felt it our duty to reveal in the public interest, we certainly think that some further action ought to be taken in regard to some of the activities of this many-named gentleman.

In our opinion, the case seems to be clearly one for investigation by the Public Prosecutor, and we hope that Sir Archibald Bodkin will be able to find time to look into it.

We have a comprehensive dossier dealing with the matter, which we shall be pleased to place at his disposal if he so desires.

A FURNISHED FLAT TRAP

PANTLIN'S GET-RICH-QUICK DODGE

HOME-SEEKERS and estate-agents alike will be well advised to guard against the following ingenious type of housing dodge.

A few weeks ago a gentleman named Pantlin, residing at 16, Patten Road, Wandsworth, approached a firm of estate-agents in the West End of London, for a furnished house.

He inspected one near Hammersmith, and offered to take it for three months at three and a half guineas per week.

Two references were furnished. One was to C. Hyams, Esq., at an address in Mortlake, and the other to F. King, Esq., at a Battersea address. The agents wrote to these people, and in due course received replies.

Good references

Mr. C. H. Hyams wrote from Mortlake on a bill-heading, "Chas. H. Hyams and Co., metal merchants and general contractors." Mr. King wrote from Manchester on a letter heading of the Queen's Hotel. Both spoke very highly of Mr. Pantlin. An agreement was prepared, and the tenant paid a month's rent in advance.

Mr. Pantlin explained that he was selling his house in Wandsworth, and that he required the house for himself, wife, two children and a maid.

The conditional offer

The second chapter of this story opens with a letter received by a JOHN BULL reader in Notting Hill, in reply to an advertisement for two or three unfurnished rooms at a rental of about 15s., inserted by him in a weekly paper.

It was headed from Pantlin's address at 16, Patten Road, Wandsworth, but was signed "C. H. King."

The writer offered three unfurnished rooms in a house near Hammersmith on condition that the floor coverings were purchased.

Our reader replied that he would like to see the rooms, but was put off by King until March 14, when he received a letter making an appointment for the following evening. He went, accompanied by his fiancée. King showed him three rooms and asked £7 10s. for the linos covering them. The price seemed exceedingly reasonable and he agreed to pay it.

King next offered his visitors an oak bedroom suite for £7. This offer was accepted, as was also an offer to buy an oak overmantel for a pound.

When terms came to be discussed, King asked for a deposit of £7 10s., but stated that he could not give possession of the rooms till some time in April. It was arranged that the tenant should call two days later with the money to bind the transaction.

An eye-opener

Early next morning the tenant, who was a trifle doubtful in regard to the bargains he had secured, telephoned to the house-agents.

They informed him that they had let the house furnished for three months to a Mr. Pantlin and that "King" was the name of the people who had furnished a reference.

Chapter three is a short, and to one person a sad one.

When Mr. Pantlin arrived at the house at ten o'clock, the agent was waiting to check the inventory. This done, Pantlin was requested to hand over the keys.

He admitted that he had posed as "King" to Mr. Phelps and offered the excuse that he was drunk!

A bit of luck

Further investigations showed that Pantlin had got over the little trouble of references by the simple expedient of writing his own.

He had formerly traded as C. H. Hyams and Co., at the Mortlake address, and the letter from the house-agents was readdressed to him at 16, Patten Road, Wandsworth.

The letters of King to Phelps and of Pantlin to the house-agents were in the same handwriting, without the slightest attempt at disguise.

The intentions of Pantlin may only be surmised, but he may consider himself lucky that he has not been called on to explain them elsewhere.

The Square-Deal Twist

A Tragedy of Thrift

THE greatest evil of industrial assurance, as we have repeatedly insisted, is not so much in the swindling side of the business, as practised so frequently by the less scrupulous agents, as in the legitimate contract.

The square deal—that is, the full payment of the amount assured—contains almost the biggest twist.

A sad illustration of this fact is afforded by the history of a thrifty woman of Barnoldswick, Lancashire, Mrs. Sarah Hall, who recently died.

Much for little

Premiums were paid to three companies on five different policies totalling £37 14s. in value. There was no question of "bilking" when the claims were made by the relatives. They were paid exactly what they were entitled to receive.

But consider the history of these policies.

The first was taken out in 1905 and the second in 1906, the total premiums being 1s. 6d. per week. The value of these particular policies was £19. Mrs. Hall paid her premiums week by week without fail for twenty-two years, contributing £85 in all to this one company.

In 1906 she commenced to pay premiums of 1s. per week to a second concern, afterwards taking out a second policy at 3d. per week. The total value of the policies was £12 9s., but for this meagre benefit to those whom she might leave behind £65 was what she contributed.

With the third company she had only a small policy, valued at £6 5s., but, in return, she was mulcted £27. Altogether she paid £177 for £37 benefit.

When we enquire closely into the history of these and similar policies, an astounding fact emerges.

Mrs. Hall was insured for a total sum of £37 14s. She was paying premiums at the rate of 3s. 3d. per week or £8 9s. per annum.

During the first year, the companies would only have paid about £10 in the event of her death, so that their risk was very slight.

For the next three years they were liable for £30, but by the end of that time they had received £33 16s., and their risk had vanished.

Whose fault?

Subsequently, the value of the policies was increased to £37 14s. But, note this important point, after the fourth year until Mrs. Hall's death, *they had no risk whatever!*

Everything she paid was money for nothing!

If simple working people are fools enough to pay astute assurance companies five times more than they will ever receive in return, and, as in this case, to allow those companies to draw money for fifteen years without the faintest risk, whose fault is it?

The apologists of the companies assure us that it is not their fault. To this we can only add that, if this exploitation of the poor is permitted to continue, it will not be our fault.

A FILM-FAN CATCH

THE PRODUCER AND HIS DREAMS

A-smuggling We Will Go!

CINEMA work possesses a peculiar fascination for a big section of the public, and offers of employment-with-investment, despite the frequency with which they have been exposed, prove a profitable proposition to the unscrupulous.

As a matter of fact, there are at the moment precious few opportunities in the British film industry, and established firms of repute are finding it an extremely difficult matter to make ends meet. For the newcomer the prospects are well-nigh hopeless

Notwithstanding the unanimous agreement of leading producers as to the parlous state of the industry, there are still a number of optimistic philanthropists willing to make fortunes for other people—on terms of course—out of film production.

Spreading the net

An offer of this kind was recently made through the following advertisement in a daily paper:

Cinema Producing Company has vacancy new cast for Gentleman, also one for Lady. Must suit character. Willing to invest £500 to £1,000. Experience unnecessary to selected person. Opportunity.

A gentleman who answered this received a reply from Sherwood Street, Piccadilly.

This letter was signed by W. J. Coleman, and after expressing regret at the delay in answering the applicant, explained that he had been away in Essex locating suitable scenery for his next photoplay.

Mr. Coleman, evidently desirous of impressing the applicant with the importance of himself and his business, went on to say that, having completed plans for a series of excellent films, with an assured market for same, he was desirous of obtaining a partner with finance to complete their production.

Easy fortunes

Notwithstanding the generally acknowledged depression in the British film industry Mr. Coleman believes there are fortunes waiting to be picked up by the right man—and, of course, the right man is Mr. Coleman.

This, at any rate, is the impression conveyed by the concluding terms of his communication: "There are immense possibilities at the moment for British films and actors, and with knowledge that I have attained success is assured."

The applicant made an appointment at the Sherwood Street address, and accompanied by a friend, who bears out his story as to what occurred, he went to see Coleman to investigate further the "opportunity."

They met Coleman, who was a well-groomed man of about twenty-five years of age, and were introduced to Captain Francis Pearson, a pleasant-spoken individual, who was said to be a well-known journalist who was writing the scenarios for Coleman's proposed productions.

For some reason or other they did not appear anxious to discuss their scheme in the Sherwood Street office—perhaps, as producers, they had a partiality for moving scenes. A move was, at all events, made to an adjacent tea-shop.

Assured success

Coleman and Pearson explained that, owing to the new Film Bill, there will be a demand for British films, as cinema-houses in this country will have to show a certain percentage of British films. Consequently, now was the time to produce them.

Evidently these two partners have a conservative idea of the cost of production, for they declared that their first film, "The History of the Temple," would only cost £100 to produce.

They claimed to have received permission to film the temple on condition that they presented a copy to the authorities. As this would only cost two-pence per foot it was not worth consideration.

The second effort was to be a trifle more ambitious, and was to consist of a smuggling drama on the Essex coast. As most of the scenes would be in the open, the cost would be comparatively small, and would come out at under £1,000.

Coleman declared that he had experience of film work, but had done nothing for the past few years. He added that he had produced small films, but when pressed for their names became extremely vague.

Coleman affirmed that success was assured, as thanks to Captain Pearson they would have the Press behind them "to a man."

Captain Pearson and himself had put the matter up to the well-known producer, Mr. Wetherell, who had just returned to England after producing "Robinson Crusoe."

He had given them a lot of useful advice, and had promised to produce the films and take the photos for £20 per week.

Before parting with the £1,000 required, the applicant wisely made some enquiries. Mr. Wetherell emphatically states he has no knowledge of Coleman or Pearson and has not discussed the proposed production.

Damping disclaimers

Mr. Coleman claimed to be a personal friend of Mr. G. A. Atkinson, the film critic of the *Daily Express* and *Sunday Express*. He, too, denies ever having heard of Coleman or Pearson.

They are not known in the film world, nor is there any trace of "Coleman Photoplays," a name quoted by Coleman.

This and all other cinema flotation offers should be regarded with the greatest suspicion. There are few film fortunes waiting for the novice.

Mr. Edgar Wallace, the famous criminologist

The Four Just Men

Silver Triangle Clue

MR. EDGAR WALLACE, the famous writer and criminologist, has brought to our notice a mysterious card which can only mean one thing—that the organisation of the Four Just Men is as active as ever.

There is nothing on the card but a silver triangle. A visiting card on which is a silver triangle would not by itself assist anyone very much, *but on the silver triangle appear the three letters* M.G.P.

Manfred — Gonsalez — Poiccart! For what else can these letters stand?

Mr. Edgar Wallace is not the only person in London who has become aware of the existence of the Silver Triangle.

The criminal underworld of the metropolis is both anxious and uneasy. There is, for instance, a notorious white slaver who knows all about the Silver Triangle—and wishes he didn't.

We do not know who Mr. Guntheimer is, but we know that he too has seen the Silver Triangle—to his great distress.

So has a man named Dennis, so has a Mr. Lewis Lethersohn. So, too, has a Mr. Reynolds, *alias* Grain.

The secret out

We have not yet been able to discover much about these men, but what we do know does not redound to their credit.

And if, as we believe, the Four Just Men are at work in London under the sign of the Silver Triangle, it is clear why London's crooks are uneasy.

For the Four Just Men are known the world over. Astute, implacable, they have dealt out justice to the wrong-doer with the stern impartiality of avenging fate. Are they doing it still?

Mr. Edgar Wallace assures us that by next week he will be in a position to give us the exact address from which the Four Just Men are operating.

He is confident that a few days more investigation will bring his efforts to an end and put him and us in a position to disclose the whole secret of the Silver Triangle.

WAR must be defeated, and knowledge will do it. The principles of peace must be inculcated in the minds of the young. It is here that the teacher has a wonderful chance. Let us be sure that the teacher is himself properly taught

How to Save £600,000,000

by J. C. MAXWELL GARNETT, C.B.E., Sc.D.

ON a Monday afternoon in October, 1925, a Greek sentry was shot where the new Greece meets Bulgaria on the mountains of Macedonia. Nothing very strange, of course, for Bulgars have killed Greeks and Greeks have killed Bulgars in Macedonia ever since Bulgaria began. And there was nothing very strange about what followed two days later: on the Wednesday a Greek army invaded Bulgaria.

But then there happened something which the world had never seen before, something quite impossible in the old world that ended in 1914. The Bulgarian General Staff telegraphed this amazing order to the officer in command of their defending forces:

"Make only slight resistance; protect the fugitive and stricken population; prevent the spread of panic in the Struma Valley; and do not expose the troops to unnecessary losses in view of the fact that the incident has been laid before the Council of the League of Nations, which is expected to stop the invasion."

What the League might do

The Council of the League of Nations did stop the invasion. Both Greece and Bulgaria were members of the League. Both were therefore bound by the League's Covenant, as our own country is also bound, not to make war, at least until nine months had first been spent in search for a peaceful settlement.

The Council of the League met on the next Monday, and insisted that the Covenant must be obeyed. Within four days the last Greek soldier had left Bulgaria, and the war was over.

There is something strangely new about a world where that could happen. It has immense possibilities for good. The League, which has stopped three wars between small European States and which has lately been strengthened by Germany's adherence, *might* have its authority increased until it can get rid of international wars as completely as England has got rid of private duels.

It might, but then it might not. Possibilities indeed; but vast uncertainties and appalling dangers, mainly due to ignorance.

Suppose a nineteenth-century Cockney suddenly returned to our London and thought of it as it used to be instead of as it is. His first attempt to cross the street would likely be the end of him. We have got to think of the world more or less as it is, or we shall get into trouble.

It is dangerous to think of our world as it used to be, made up of separate sovereign States, quite independent of one another, free to behave as they like, even free to make war.

Dangerous risk

Politically, the modern world is not like that: every war or threat of war, says the League's Covenant, is a matter of concern to the whole League. Economically, the modern world is not at all like that; two-thirds of the people of England would quickly disappear if our country were suddenly isolated.

If people living in our twentieth-century world think of its political side as unchanged since their grandfathers' time, they run the risk of losing civilisation itself—through war, famine, revolution and anarchy.

Governments may see how to avoid these catastrophes; but they are paralysed, they cannot even join in an all-round reduction of expenditure on armaments, when public opinion is unprepared. The State cannot act right if the people think wrong.

So the League of Nations, at the instance of an Englishwoman, Dame Edith Lyttelton, has proposed to begin at the beginning and teach the children to think right. The younger generation everywhere is to be trained to regard international co-operation as the normal method of conducting world affairs.

A fine beginning

"All children and young people," says the League's report, "should, before completing their formal education, receive instruction in the achievements and aims of the League of Nations."

It may be that mankind, still suffering from the last war, but still paying £600,000,000 a year for armaments, will have to spend forty years in the wilderness until these children have grown up and are ready to take charge.

A National Conference of the central and local education authorities in Britain will shortly meet to discuss the League's report. It is true that, here in Britain, there can be no universal or widespread change in education unless the teachers concerned, and particularly the headmasters and headmistresses of all the multifarious schools, are convinced that the change ought to be made.

But if the power of the National Conference is strictly limited, its influence may yet be decisive. It can declare the substantial agreement of the Government and of the local authorities with the main lines of the experts' report. It can approve suggestions for persuading and preparing the teachers gradually to introduce the necessary changes into the schools of Britain.

It might even pledge the central and local authorities to carry out their part of such a plan. And it might leave behind it a National Committee to complete the details.

But the plan itself could hardly be formulated by the National Conference. It must be worked out at leisure beforehand and left to the conference to amend and approve.

The way to peace

And to the making of it must go all the best experience that has been accumulated in the seven years since the League began, and since pioneer teachers first gave lessons on this latest international institution.

With such experience to guide it, and relying on the continued co-operation of the great associations of teachers, the League of Nations Union has set out to prepare suggestions for the National Conference.

They will deal with its educational value in organising thought and in training character, as well as in promoting peace. They will speak of its connection with history, with geography and with other school subjects. They will concern out-of-school activities as well as lessons in the class-room.

They will involve action by central and local education authorities. But they will never lose sight of the fact that nothing can be done, except in so far as the teachers see the need for it and are ready to encourage it.

If the National Conference will approve these suggestions, they will gradually bear fruit in the schools of this country.

After all, we like to think of ourselves as a practical people. And this new knowledge—of the League, of the Covenant, and of international relations as they now are—is practically useful because the future of international relations so closely concerns every boy and girl in the modern world.

J. C. Maxwell Garnett, C.B.E., Sc.D.

Until the reign of law, to which we are accustomed in our own country, is established throughout the whole "Great Society" of interdependent nations, man's best work and highest endeavour may be rendered futile by the folly of war, and human life become again cheap and purposeless.

Democracy's chance

But Governments alone cannot establish the reign of law throughout the world. That can only be done when the public opinion of this and other democratic countries understands the need for the world-wide reign of law and insistently demands that it be established and maintained by the several Governments co-operating in the League of Nations.

Already those who are in close touch with the schools of Britain are aware of a change taking place. Most of the education committees in England and Wales have begun to help their teachers to learn about the League.

Books have been lent, official "suggestions on League instruction" circulated, attendance at summer schools encouraged, lectures arranged and conferences held where schoolmasters and mistresses can discuss the League and international affairs with an expert in those matters.

As more teachers come to understand the League and the Covenant and all that they mean, and may mean, the facts will be taught with enthusiasm and learned with eagerness; and loyalty to England (or Wales or Scotland), to Britain and to the far-flung British Commonwealth—itself a model League of Nations—will come to involve loyalty to the world-wide society of mankind.

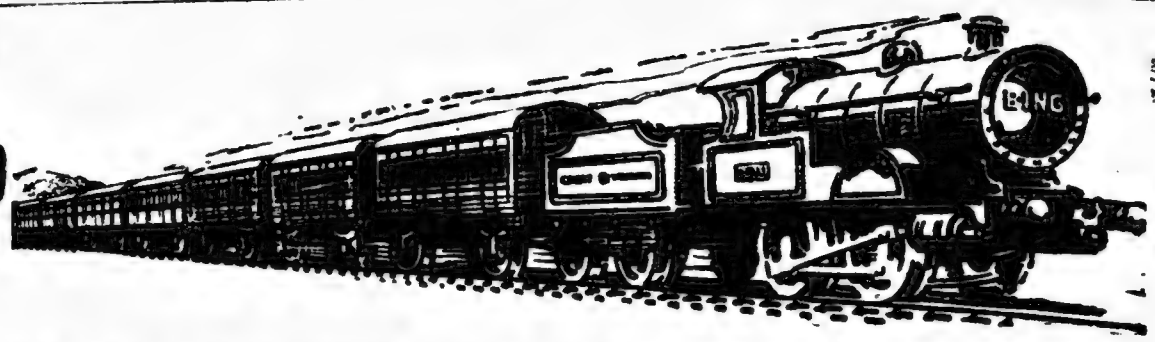
The splendid victory

With yet more well-informed teachers we shall see the time, to which President Wilson looked forward, when men will be as ashamed of being disloyal to humanity as they are now of being disloyal to their country.

According to the Duke of Wellington, the battle of Waterloo was won on the playing-fields of a famous English school. Now, as then, Britain has to lead the world's fight against aggressive militarism. Now, as then, the schools of Britain may make all the difference.

But now British teachers have a greater opportunity—and a vast responsibility. For now the schools of Britain have no mere Napoleon, but war itself, to defeat, and the final victory to win for the cause of the League and of world peace.

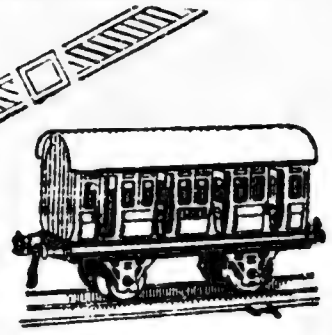
FREE



BING Famous Clockwork Trains, Engines, Tenders, Carriages, Brake Vans, etc., in exchange for B.D.V. Cigarette Coupons.

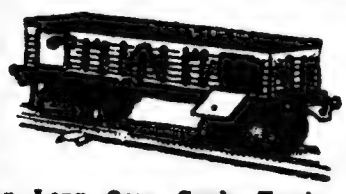
The first 2,000 Boys to send for a Free Engine will also be presented with a Tender.

In addition to the trains, there is available under the B.D.V. Gift Scheme every possible accessory necessary to the building up of a complete railway. Collect B.D.V. Cigarette Coupons. These coupons are in every packet of B.D.V. Cigarettes. The more coupons you can collect, the sooner your boy can have his train or his accessories. We can only illustrate a very few of the gifts on *this page*. Send for the free B.D.V. Gift Book, worth five coupons, which explains the scheme in detail. The Gift Book is fully illustrated and every gift is clearly marked, showing the number of coupons necessary for each article. Coupons are available for engines, trains and accessories, but if a boy already possesses an engine, he can begin collecting at once for the accessories.

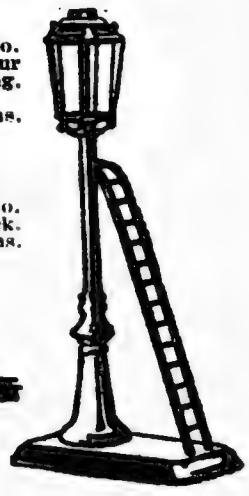


Bing Passenger Car. No. 62/110/0. All doors to open. 6⅛ins. long, 3⅛ins. high. 1¼in. gauge. 90 Coupons.

Bing Signal Box. No. 60/629. With steps, signal and candle holder. Base 5⅛ins. by 4ins. Height to roof 5ins. 114 Coupons.



Bing Long Open Goods Truck. No. 10/547/0. On bogie wheels, with four flap doors, painted grey with black lining. 9⅛ins. long, 2⅛ins. high. 1¼in. gauge. 150 Coupons.



Bing Lamp Standard with Ladder. No. 10/641. Weighted and fitted with wick. 8⅛ins. high. 80 Coupons.

Bing Railway Bridge. No. 611/0. Arched Viaduct with two slopes, fitted with rails. 30⅛ins. long. Centre arch 4⅛ins. high. 1¼in. gauge. 140 Coupons.

Bing Wayside Station. No. 61. With advertisements and candle holders for lighting up. 21⅛ins. long, 6⅛ins. high. 210 Coupons.

Ask your Friends to help you

Clockwork trains are a joyful occupation for the youngsters; they are the ideal indoor entertainment on wet days.

Many of your friends are now smoking B.D.V. Cigarettes; ask them to retain their coupons for you.

By a little co-operation of this kind your boy can very soon have a complete model railway of his own.

Scale Model Railways, as sold by Bassett-Lowke Ltd., Northampton, in addition, are also available under this gift scheme and are illustrated in the Gift Book with full details and number of coupons required.

Send for the B.D.V. Gift Book To-day.

Just write your name and address on a postcard (1d. stamp necessary) or use the coupon below which may be sent in an unsealed envelope. Postage ½d. and post to the address on the coupon.

B.D.V

THE KING OF CIGARETTES

10 *for* 6d. Plain or Cork Tips. 20 *for* 11½d.

B.D.V. GIFT BOOK COUPON.

To GODFREY PHILLIPS, Ltd., 54, White Lion Street, London, E.1. (Gift Dept. 70).

Dear Sirs, Please send me FREE B.D.V. Gift Book, worth 5 Coupons.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

The partnership Coupons now in B.D.V. Cigarette packets are available in the Gift scheme.

B.3.G.3.

Candid Communications

Outspoken Messages to Celebrities, Notorieties and, occasionally, Nonentities

To the Rt. Hon. Lord EUSTACE PERCY, M.P., Minister of Education.

My Lord,—Forgive me if I disturb your slumbers, but I am anxious to remind you of the 33,000 mentally defective children in Great Britain, 12,470 of whom are in ordinary schools where no special facilities exist for relieving their darkened minds. If this is not a public scandal, I have no name for it. John Bull.

To the Rt. Hon. NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN, M.P., Minister of Health.

Dear Sir,—Why do you refuse to receive a deputation from the Poor Law Necessitous Areas Committee? Surely you ought to be willing to hear the arguments for spreading the cost of poor relief over the whole country on fair and equitable terms. It is a monstrous injustice which compels the poor to keep the poor. John Bull.

To the Rt. Hon. Sir P. CUNLIFFE-LISTER, M.P., President of the Board of Trade.

Dear Sir Philip,—Perhaps you will take an early opportunity of stating what you intend to do with the report of the Departmental Committee on Insurance Law. As you know, the committee propose certain definite reforms, especially in regard to accident business. Timid as the proposed alterations are, they would be an improvement on the present system, which is nothing less than the chartered robbery of the poor. John Bull.

To the Rev. F. B. MEYER, D.D., Christ Church, Westminster Bridge Road, S.E.

Dear Sir,—Known as the "Grand Old Man of Nonconformity," you have, in your eightieth year, added a very human note to your life story. Hearing of a baby found abandoned at the door of the Homeless Children's Adoption Society, you have taken the mite into your tender care. I hope you will live many years and see the child growing to such a lad as you most wish to see him. John Bull.

To Mr. JAMES MAXTON, M.P., Barrhead, Renfrewshire.

Dear Sir,—At Brighton you pointed out to the Premier the futility of praying for industrial peace while so many families were on the verge of starvation. The only road to the desired goal must be lined with healthy houses, inhabited by workers assured of a living wage. Then shall we reach peace indeed. To beg for the end without labouring to create the means is hypocritical folly. John Bull.

To Mr. A. V. ALEXANDER, M.P., Great Smith Street, S.W.

Dear Sir,—You state the bare truth when you aver that the service of milk to the people is far from satisfactory. In what you term "common loose milk" there is downright danger. We shall never have a perfectly satisfactory state of things until the land and dairy-farming in this country are taken up nationally and overhauled thoroughly. At present everything connected with agriculture is running at haphazard, and the devil takes the hindermost, in this instance the children of the poorest. John Bull.

To Miss ELLEN WILKINSON, M.P., John Street, W.C.

Dear Madame,—I am in complete accord with your opinion that thrashing children is simply a sign of bad temper and loss of self-control. I regret that a London magistrate should publicly state his belief in this method of "training" children. Parents who believe the lash a substitute for long and careful teaching are merely betraying the weakness of their own. A child who is hit naturally wants to hit back, but a child that is talked to may presently learn the difference between good and bad. John Bull.

To the Rt. Rev. the BISHOP OF ST. ALBANS, Abbey Gate House, St. Albans.

My Lord,—You take to task those of an older generation who blame the young for neglecting religious observance, and point out that the influence of the world war cannot be ignored. "They are a fine crowd who had a bad start," you insist; "they are making the best of it. I believe they are going to make a better job of it than we have done." It is refreshing to meet such broad-minded sanity. John Bull.

To Mr. ERNEST CRAIG, M.P., Brynkinallt and Ifton Collieries, Shropshire.

Dear Sir,—When your employees framed a pension scheme to assure to workers of sixty-five an income of 7s. 6d. a week, you expressed the opinion that the minimum should be £1. Towards this you offered to contribute £250 per quarter for two years, and promised in addition to find light work for those pensioners able to perform it. Your generosity and methods are a pattern for employers. John Bull.

To Police-Sergeants HENRY PEGLER and ALFRED CLAYDEN, Bow Street.

Dear Sirs,—The cheques you both received from the Special Reward Fund have been excellently earned. When arresting George Harrison, a most dangerous criminal, the miscreant presented a loaded revolver. One of you only missed death because of a fortunate miss fire, yet you overpowered this wicked man and brought him to book. Through your action society is well rid of the fellow for the next three years. John Bull.

To Miss LIZZIE CLAY, Halghton, Bangor, Isycoed.

Dear Madam,—At sixty-nine years of age you complete forty years of postal service, involving a daily walk of many miles. During the period you have never but once been absent from duty, when you were forced to rest an injured ankle, and you have trudged at least 170,000 miles. Such fidelity merits a good reward. John Bull.

To Mr. JOHN TAYLOR, Hillside House, Orpington.

Dear Sir,—I congratulate you and your good wife. In fact you are both wonderful. I have only to add that you are 103 years old and Mrs. Taylor the same age in a month or two to prove the truth of my words. May you both flourish and enjoy every minute of life still remaining to you. John Bull.

To the URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL, Holyhead.

Gentlemen,—I cannot congratulate you upon your offer of a salary of £120 a year for a rate-collector. The person appointed must also collect the Electric Light Revenue Account and Private Works Account, have experience, and submit three recent testimonials. He must devote the whole of his time to these duties, although he may be appointed to prepare the voters' list at a little extra money. As the cash he will handle in rates alone approximates to over £40,000 a year, wages of this calibre are a distinct incitement to dishonesty. John Bull.

Straight from the Shoulder

Lord Salisbury.—"The British people are an extravagant people."

Especially in the way they swallow the estimates for the fighting forces.

* * *

Lady Cynthia Mosley.—"The Government is spending 47½ times as much money on war as on housing."

And the moment women are tired of it they have the power to reverse the figures.

* * *

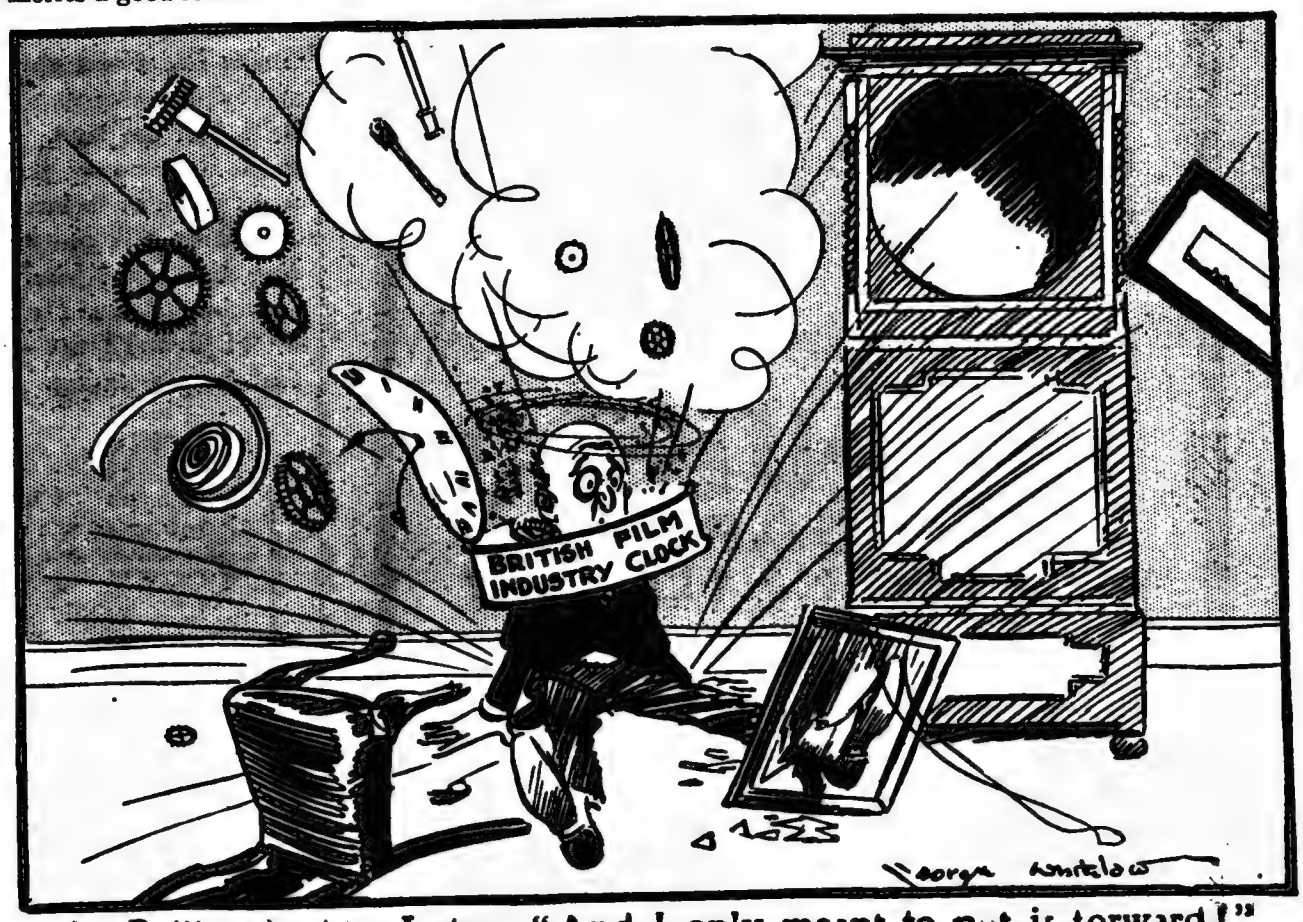
Lord Mayor of London.—"We must use every endeavour to persuade ladies in this country to buy British goods."

You'll have no trouble if the ladies are given purchasing power by their husbands finding work.

* * *

Mr. R. R. Wilson, M.P.—"Cure for existing evils in trade and industry will not be found by politicians."

A frank confession of impotence which honesty demands should be repeated at election times.



Sir Philip Cunliffe-Lister: "And I only meant to put it forward!"

Cock your feet on the fender—Light a Manikin and away go care and worry—For there's a soothing charm about a Manikin—A delightful fragrance which brings new joy to life—More satisfaction !—More pleasure !

Just step into the next Tobacconists and get a packet, and tonight when the grey blue smoke rings float upwards you'll know that there is one great pleasure you can enjoy without extravagance—For Manikins are only 2d. a piece, and delightful from start to finish.

All Tobacconists stock them.

MANIKIN

CIGARS

MILD HAVANA FLAVOUR

5 FOR 10D

Made by
J. R. FREEMAN & SON, LTD.,
Manufacturers of Cigars
for nearly 100 years.

Everyone's pleased to see Smith !

He swings into the office radiating cheerfulness. Men calling in on business like to see Smith. It's "Have a cigar, Smith" or "You're looking pretty fit, old man!" And business goes smoothly, and well; —*everything* goes well—with Smith. He seems to get as much fun out of his day's work as he does from the games he plays. What a sorry place the office would be without the contagious smile of old Smith! Smith has a secret, though it's really no secret at all,—for he'll tell anyone. He'll tell them that apart from getting plenty of exercise, fresh air and sleep, the question of getting the right kind of food is most important. He'll tell them about Grape Nuts—his breakfast *every* morning.

Grape-Nuts is a delicious food which supplies a great many of the vital elements which the body *must* have if it is to be strong, healthy and energetic. Grape-Nuts undergoes a special baking process which makes it easily digestible. Grape-Nuts is a crisp food, giving that essential exercise which dentists declare so necessary for sound teeth and gums. Eaten with milk or cream, Grape-Nuts provides a perfectly balanced food in a most delicious form with a rich, natural, nut-like flavour. You will certainly like Grape-Nuts. Try it to-morrow morning ! Or post the coupon below and we will send you *two* sample packages of Grape-Nuts free—enough for two breakfasts. Send it now !

Post Health Products

GRAPE-NUTS
supplies the body with:
Energy-producing dextrins, maltose, and other carbohydrates.
The essential vitamin B, the appetite builder.
Iron, to enrich the blood.
Protein for muscle and body-building.
Phosphorus to strengthen the bones and teeth.
Grape-Nuts is one of the Post Health Products, which include also Post Toasties, Postum and Post's Bran Flakes

Grape-Nuts

THE GRAPE-NUTS COMPANY, LTD. Dept. P.6
5 Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2

Please send me, free, two trial packages of Grape-Nuts, together with "A Book of Better Breakfasts," by Mrs. D. D. Cottington-Taylor, A.R.S.I.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

(Please write VERY plainly !)

Do you know the Grape Nuts Secret?

Without Fear or Favour—by the Editor

A PIN TO STAB AN ELEPHANT

WE have scores of times urged strong official action in the matter of mismanaged charities and ballots. We have got action at last—of a sort! What good is it going to do to "enquire" after disaster has occurred?

SOME fifteen months ago we took credit to ourselves for the action of Sir W. Joynson-Hicks, the Home Secretary, whom we have so frequently urged to action, when he set up a committee to consider whether any form of supervision was desirable over collecting charities, and if so to make recommendations in the matter.

The report of this committee has just been issued, but we say quite frankly that we are bitterly disappointed at its conclusions. The whole question shrieks aloud for wholesale root-and-branch legislation, but the committee has been satisfied merely to tinker.

The street-collecting habit, for instance, did not die with the war. It was far too good a method for the collecting of funds to let slip, and although the police authorities in London and some parts of the country have adopted regulations for the supervision of these collections, there remain some highly reprehensible and objectionable sides to the system.

In the first place, it is well-nigh impossible to vouch for the integrity of every one of the scores of helpers necessary for a successful collection, and a system which is dependent for success on the importunity of young girls in the public streets is heartily to be denounced.

THE Home Secretary's committee has dealt with the latter point to the extent of recommending that the minimum age for street collectors should be raised to eighteen.

We cannot congratulate it for leaving this most important matter in the air by merely giving its blessing to a regulation which is already in force in the Metropolitan Police District. There are a few street collections which have become part and parcel of our national life. Street collections should be confined to these and these alone.

Perhaps one of the most objectionable methods of raising charitable funds, and one which has come into such prominence of late years, is the ballot.

The leakage of funds in a ballot is colossal, and even when well conducted—as we have frequently pointed out—a large part of the proceeds finds its way into the hands of the professional promoters.

The committee, however, does not see its way to recommend that any control should be instituted over ballots organised on behalf of charity as such. It is, again, quite content to tinker.

We are confident that the public at large will be satisfied with nothing less than a universal system of supervision over collecting charities, and if the Home Secretary is going to accept the conclusion of his committee as the last word on the subject, we can only warn him that he will court disaster.

AFTER all these months of investigation and deliberation, the most his committee can see fit to recommend is that the Charity Commissioners should be empowered to hold an enquiry into the affairs of any collecting charity which is represented to them by a "representing authority" (which would contain the municipal and police element) as not carried on in good faith for charitable purposes, not properly administered or not keeping proper accounts; and to wind up or remodel the charity, or to take other necessary action, if they find the allegation proved.

The committee also recommends the institution of a system of licensing for door-to-door collections, collections in public places of entertainment and public-houses, and boxes in shops and public-houses.

Enquiry after disaster has occurred will not suffice. *There must be complete supervision and control by a central authority.*

It must be made impossible for muddle and mal-administration to take place at all.

Sir Herbert Cunliffe, K.C., Chairman of the Committee appointed to consider the matter of charity collections

A NURSING SCANDAL

MRS. HILTON PHILIPSON, M.P., is to be congratulated on her Bill for bringing nursing-homes within the ambit of the law.

The need for a measure of public control of these institutions has long been manifest. Last year a Select Committee reported on the subject, pointing to many abuses seriously menacing the health of patients.

Unlike the hospitals, nursing-homes are run for private profit. Consequently, there is a strong temptation to unscrupulous individuals to embark upon such enterprises without adequate qualifications, and with no other motive than to show the largest possible return upon the capital invested.

The only effective check upon this sort of thing is a measure of registration and inspection.

The State has a vested interest in the health of its citizens. It ought not to allow sickness, or the need for surgical treatment, to be exploited without scruple for private gain.

A principal complaint of the Select Committee related to the staffing of private nursing institutions and to the passing off of unqualified individuals as "trained nurses."

It is to be hoped there will be no tampering with the drastic clauses of Mrs. Philipson's Bill intended to put an end to this kind of fraud, which, in cases of serious illness, may actually imperil the lives of patients.

Another important matter is the conduct of private maternity homes. The responsibility of Parliament in all matters affecting the quality of the nation's births ought to need no emphasis at this time of day.

The Nursing Homes Registration Bill should secure a non-contentious passage in both Houses. Sheer humanity is its sufficient passport to the Statute Book.

THE SILENT SPHINX

An Impending Disaster

IF the present Government has one outstanding characteristic it is the ability to preserve a tight-lipped silence as to legislative intentions.

Take, for instance, the Rent Act. Given as a sop to the dire need of the people for protection against rapacity in 1915, it is due to expire in December. What is going to be done about it?

Anxious and harassed families in every town and village in the country are asking that question, but the Government does not speak. Meanwhile landlords have long been clamouring for its abolition.

Let us be fair and admit that the Act does press with some hardship upon some landlords. It is, as usual, the small and weak who are hit.

There are cases of men who, having invested their money in one or two small houses, have been forced through physical disability to retire early and try to live on their rents.

THE heavy cost of living now makes it impossible, and other means of eking out existence must be sought. Very many elderly women whose only defence from the rigours of poverty is a bit of house property are in similar plight. The cost of repairs cannot be met and houses are left to fall into decay.

Nevertheless, these considerations are outweighed by the devastating and widespread misery which the sudden removal of rent restriction would inflict.

The greedy and the cruel already find too many loopholes for their exertions. There are not enough houses to go round. And there never will be enough houses of the right sort until land is obtainable on reasonable terms and building materials are cheaper.

We have more than once exposed the scandal of dud fixtures as a means of evading the law. The provision of "alternative accommodation" where, through the medium of the courts, a sitting tenant is ejected, has become a dead letter. It has been forced to become a dead letter, because, in nine cases out of ten, there is no "alternative accommodation" to be got.

AS matters stand, rent restriction is a sheer necessity. If anyone doubts it let him spend a few mornings in any county court and listen to the cases of hardship brought before the judge.

There is, in addition, the object-lesson of those houses already decontrolled. Houses which in previous years let at £60 per annum, now let in floors, are fetching £300 and even £400 per annum.

The tenants, of the same class, who once had a whole house for little more than £1 a week, now pay double that rent for two or three rooms.

The Rent Restriction Act must be renewed. It should not be impossible to reframe it so that the hardships of small and poor landlords are redressed, while at the same time protecting unhappy tenants.

The Rake's Progress

by A. G. GARDINER

WINSTON will undoubtedly wriggle as he has never wriggled before. But he cannot get over the fact that his Budgets get worse and worse. And, biggest scandal of all, there is ready to hand the saving of millions that are now being wantonly and recklessly thrown away!

The Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill, M.P., Chancellor of the Exchequer

NEXT week Mr. Churchill has his annual field-day. He will enjoy it and do justice to it, for no one fills the centre of the stage more adequately than he does. But the occasion will not be one for public rejoicing. Few things, in fact, that Mr. Churchill has anything to do with are that.

For though he is a brilliant person, perhaps as near a thing to genius as we have in these days, he is a costly luxury. If his judgment does not let him down, which is usually the case, his luck does.

His record as Chancellor of the Exchequer is characteristic of him. Next Monday's will be the third Budget he has introduced, and each one is worse than the former. After the war there was a slow but steady reduction of our expenditure. We got the Budget down to the 800 millions level. That was alarming enough.

A staggering burden

I am old enough to remember the sensation when Gladstone's Government first touched the 100 million mark. Only some 90 millions of expenditure was budgeted for in fact, and only 90 millions was spent; but there was trouble with Russia at the time and Gladstone took powers to spend eleven millions for contingencies.

But the mere mention of 100 millions made the public gasp as if it had heard the sound of the last trump announcing the Day of Judgment.

And next Monday Mr. Churchill will come to us with his hand out, not for 100 millions, not for 200 millions as was the case in the year before the war, but for 821 millions. Instead of getting our expenditure below the 800 million line at which he found it he has added 10s. per head of taxation on every one of us, man, woman and child.

And that is not all. He has to announce a deficit of something like 30 millions on his last Budget, and if he does not add that to our burden in the coming year it is only because he dare not.

The disastrous steward

I do not say that he is to blame for all this. He has had bad luck. The huge deficit, for instance, is due to the coal strike, and we may consider ourselves fortunate that it is no bigger.

But the fact remains that under Mr. Churchill's Chancellorship we have begun sliding back towards the thousand-million standard of the war years, and that if we measure him by results he must rank as one of the most disastrous stewards who have ever been in charge of our national housekeeping.

This question of public expenditure is not one to which the plain man can afford to be indifferent. A Budget is not as entertaining as a cup tie or the Grand National, but it has a good deal more relation to our bread and butter. Even if we do not pay Mr. Churchill's demands directly, we pay them indirectly. We pay them in increased cost of living, we pay them in lowered wages, and we pay them in unemployment.

If the engineering trade is beaten by the foreign competitor, with the result that work is slack, unemployment rife and wages low, it is partly because the heavy toll which Mr. Churchill levies handicaps us in the race. And so with cotton, shipping, iron and steel.

In the end all taxation has to be paid out of industry, and in increasing the cost of production taxation limits our trade, lowers consumption and depresses labour. The tax-gatherer to-day is taking from us £8 for every £1 that he took in Gladstone's time and £4 for every £1 he took a dozen years ago.

If the fat years are to return to us, the Rake's Progress that the nation has been running must be checked. It is useless, of course, to look for the restoration of the pre-war standard of expenditure, for the war has left us with 60 millions of annual war pensions to pay and with the interest to meet on ten times the amount of debt we had in 1914.

The lost keynote

But these enormous liabilities that must be honoured only make economy elsewhere the more urgent.

And it is the spirit of economy in high places which has been lost. Lord Oxford told the House of Lords the other day how he had seen a department which used to be run, as it were, by a man and a boy, develop a staff of dozens of highly paid officials, and that is symptomatic of what is happening all round.

I do not wish to speak disrespectfully of our Civil Service. It is the best Civil Service in the world; but it is the best because of that stern economy which used to be its keynote and is its keynote no longer.

And it is time that we called a halt to the modern idea that a State subsidy is a cure for every ill. We saw the mischief of that in the coal strike, for the only result of spending 20 millions of the taxpayers' money in staving off trouble was to make the trouble infinitely worse when it came.

And all the evidence goes to show that the chief result of the housing subsidy has been to increase the cost of building houses by exactly the amount which the taxpayer has been called upon to provide.

The ray of hope

There are cases in which the State must put its hand in its pocket. Education is one of them, and on that expenditure, I believe, the nation gets a handsomer return than on any other expenditure, for an instructed people is the best asset of a State. Insurance is another; old-age pensions is a third.

These things are a stimulus to private thrift, not a substitute for private thrift, and must not be confounded with that reckless plunder of the public purse which has been exposed at Poplar, West Ham, Chester-le-Street and elsewhere.

But there still remains the sphere in which economy calls most clamantly for attention. It is lamentable that after fighting the greatest war in history to destroy the greatest military menace in history, and after having succeeded, we should be spending on armaments nearly twice as much as before the war.

How can we hope to compete industrially with America when we spend £3 per head on armaments where America spends only £1? And how can we compete with Germany which, being disarmed, spends practically nothing? It is as though, in winning the war, we have handed the fruits of victory over to the enemy.

Happily, this appalling fact is dawning on both the English Government and the French. The rival disarmament schemes they have put before the Geneva Conference is the brightest gleam of sanity we have had since the war. If the schemes go through, as they assuredly will, there will be a ray of hope for the taxpayer at last.

A Mother's

What pangs of heart are often the sequel of an accident! These are often more poignant even than the patient's physical pain!

EVERY week over 20,000 men and women suffer misfortune in London. Matthew Railton was one of them. He was riding his motor-cycle when it skidded on a greasy road near the Embankment, and he was thrown before an oncoming tramcar.

Mr. Philip Inman

The ambulance was immediately summoned and the patient was carried into the hospital in a serious condition. It was doubtful whether he would ever regain consciousness, and his clothes were searched in the hope that they would yield some trace of his identity.

"Nothing at all," murmured the nurse, "except money and some keys." Just then a police-constable brought in a badly crushed hat, and inside was a tab with "Matthew Railton" inscribed upon it.

An hour after his admission a visiting-card was handed to me. It bore the name of "Miss Muriel Railton," and it introduced a girl in the early twenties. "How is my brother?" she enquired anxiously, and I explained to her the nature of his injuries. When she had recovered from the shock she told me this remarkable story.

"He is studying for the Bar," she started, "and our home is just outside Bradford in Yorkshire. When he came to London I came with him to take up music, as my parents thought it would be nice for us to be together. Matthew went away for the week-end on Saturday, and I didn't expect to see him until to-night, as he intended to return direct to his chambers. But half an hour ago I had this telegram."

She handed it over to me and I read: "Is Matthew all right? Last night dreamt he was terribly hurt."

MY visitor continued her story. "When that wire came I went to the telephone and picked up the receiver to enquire if he had safely returned, but before I could ask for the number I was told that someone was trying to get through to me. It was a message from his rooms saying that he had

A Shrieking Silence

by E. ROFFE THOMPSON

"THE worst of the cost of unemployment is that we have hundreds and thousands of young men being brought up in enforced idleness. . . . Even when prosperity comes to this country we shall be paying a national debt of demoralisation as the result."—Mr. Lloyd George

IT is one of my painful duties to read each day the official record of the Parliamentary debates in the House of Commons.

I am not surprised that Parliament does not wish its debates to be broadcast. Nothing would more quickly destroy the remaining shreds of respect in which Parliament is held than for the electorate to hear for itself the futilities that are nightly poured out under the pretence that talk instead of thought will solve the nation's pressing problems.

A few days ago there was a full-dress debate on unemployment. It is easy when talking of unemployment to bring forth strings of figures. It is a simple matter to say that there are at least a million and a quarter unemployed in this country.

It is much more difficult for the man who is not unemployed to realise the tragedy, the heartbreak that lies behind those figures.

Let us take one particular case and see exactly what it does mean.

In Hollingsworth Street, Holloway, there lives Mr. Littleton, a young ex-Service man. For some time now he has been out of work and his wife has to get employment as a kitchen hand in a restaurant at £1 a week to keep the home going.

What a home!

To keep the home going! And what a home! Here are father, mother and five children all crowded together in a room measuring 13 ft. square. It has to serve them as night and day nursery, dining-room, sitting-room, bedroom and bathroom combined. Practically all the space is occupied with beds.

In one bed under a broken window sleep four of the children, one boy and three girls, two at the head and two at the foot. None of these beds has any proper bedclothes. They have been pawned long ago.

Neither is there any furniture worthy of the name. A clothes-line stretched across the ceiling serves as their wardrobe and there hang drying the few poor garments that are not actually in wear, giving the room the appearance of a rag-shop.

It is all squalid, mean and wretchedly poor. The family does not live; it exists. The man and his wife can do nothing in the evenings except sit still in a low light for fear of waking the children.

Noble, but empty, words

There is a gas stove in the room, but nothing can be cooked in it because it stands at the foot of the children's bed and there is no room to open the oven door.

When the children are indoors they have to make their beds their playground, as there is no room on the floor for them to play.

And the children? How do they thrive? They do not. "They are always queer," their mother said. The youngest of the family, a little whimpering baby, white and thin and weak, is close on two years old, yet she cannot walk a step. At the Welfare Centre Mrs. Littleton was told that this was due to lack of air and exercise.

This is just one picture from a ghastly and overcrowded canvas. How many of our legislators when they talk rubbish in the House of Commons have ever seen inside such a "home" as this? How many of them ever pause to think that the mere lack of fresh air and exercise is enough to turn a healthy growing child into a shrunken and wizened invalid?

The Prime Minister in his election address said: "*The Conservative Party would be unfaithful to its principles and to its duty if it did not treat the task of grappling with the unemployment of our people as a primary obligation.*"

These were noble words, but they have remained words. The House of Commons is never allowed to discuss this primary obligation.

It has to regard suffering through Party spectacles, and every scheme or suggestion brought forward for the relief of such cases as Mr. Littleton's is immediately suspect according to which side of the House gives birth to it.

Mr. Littleton—just one of the million victims of unemployment

During the debate on unemployment to which I have referred a comic gentleman got on his hind legs and said: "I read in the *Daily Herald* to-day an article on unemployment, and I came across this sentence: 'Labour holds that there is a remedy for unemployment.' I rushed on full of excitement, and the next sentence I came to was 'That remedy is work!'"

Misspent millions

The gentleman proceeded to make great fun of this statement. Surely to goodness what other remedy for unemployment is there except work?

Is not the primary obligation of which Mr. Baldwin spoke the duty of every Member of the House of Commons to think and plan, day in and day out, for the provision of such work?

Since the Armistice, up to October, 1925, £247,233,000 has been spent upon unemployment insurance that we persist in miscalling the "dole."

To this amount employers have contributed, in round figures, 85 millions, the workers have contributed 77 millions, and the Exchequer has contributed 56 millions, the balance of the money coming from various odd sources.

What have we got for all this expenditure? Absolutely nothing. Whereas we might have had houses and cultivated fields, roads and canals, new forests planted, and a thousand and one things that urgently need attention to make this country what it ought to be.

We can—but we won't

I was wrong when I said we had got nothing. We have got something. We have got a large body of men kept in a state of unemployment and semi-starvation, and we have got a rising tide of resentment against an apathetic Government.

We cannot afford to keep everlastingly in our national life all these thousands upon thousands of people whom we can neither clothe nor feed or house adequately.

Local authorities have spent some 40 million pounds in public works. What have *they* got for their expenditure? They have saved the State 32 million pounds which would otherwise have been paid in unemployment "dole," and they have got roads, electricity, gas, water, taxation and other undertakings of a capital value of something like 143 million pounds.

It is absurd for the Government to throw up its hands and say that nothing can be done. A very great deal can be done. A very great deal could be done straight away.

It is not that we can't; it is that we won't. Unless we do there will one day be a tragic reckoning.

Tragic Dream

In Sunshine Ward

by PHILIP INMAN

not turned up, and asking if I could give any explanation."

My visitor was interrupted by the ringing of my own telephone, and I was informed that the sister of the accident ward wished to speak to me. "Railton's just come round," she said, "and he is moaning for his sister. If we could only find her it might make all the difference." "She is here now," I replied. "I will bring her immediately."

WHEN we entered that ward the girl rushed to her brother's bedside. "It's Muriel," she said softly. "You know me, don't you?" "Yes," he whispered. "I'm glad you have come."

Then, after a moment's pause, the weak voice went on: "I want to ask you something. Don't let mother know about this; I wouldn't like her to be worried for anything." Then he sank back again into unconsciousness.

As the girl was led away a wistful appeal came into her eyes. "What shall I do?" she pleaded. "The shock will kill my mother." Her voice trembled with emotion as she added, "You see, he's the only one left. My other brothers were both killed in the war."

But something had to be done, for in that Yorkshire home a mother was waiting for a reply to her anxious enquiry. The result was seen later in the day when a taxicab pulled up at the hospital and two people alighted, a man and a woman.

"He is alive, but still unconscious," was the only thing I could say.

All through that night three people sat by the bedside of that still and silent form, looking for that spark of life which would herald a returning consciousness. When daylight came they were prevailed upon to leave the ward for a few minutes, and whilst they were outside the patient opened his eyes and stared dazedly around him.

BEFORE his loved ones could be summoned back again he had drifted away once more into slumberland. But that fleeting moment conveyed a good deal to the doctor who, too, had been keeping vigil by his side. It told him that the patient's faculties and reason were alert, and that whatever injury he had sustained his brain was not affected.

As I came away from the ward I listened to the heart-broken petition of a woman pleading for the life of her only surviving boy. Will it be granted? I shall have to leave the answer until next week.

Quaker builds brains as well as their bodies

There is nothing so good for children to start the day on as hot, nourishing Quaker Oats. They like it. It builds them up, makes sturdy limbs, firm muscles and nimble brains. Give them Quaker in plenty and they will not outgrow their strength.

Quaker cuts down your housekeeping bills. Penny for penny and pound for pound, there is more nourishment in Quaker than in any other food. You cannot afford not to serve Quaker Oats.

There are two kinds of Quaker now—*Quick* and Original. They are both equally delicious and full of nourishment. But *Quick* Quaker cooks in 3 to 5 minutes—as quick as making tea.

TESTED JB

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TWO KINDS NOW
Quick Quaker and Quaker Oats
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BQ57

FOLLOWING on his first article in last week's "John Bull," Mr. Moseley now tells of further extraordinary and alarming experiences. This and further articles will prove the appalling seriousness of the matter with which he deals

AMAZING MARRIAGE MART

by **SYDNEY A. MOSELEY**

BY paying ten guineas to the "leading marriage negotiator of the day" I have obtained introductions to a number of lonely young women who are seeking husbands.

The "marriage agency" to which I parted with my guineas is run by the *Matchmaker*. I sent a form to a Mr. Thomas Owen, the editor, of 10-11, Fetter Lane, Fleet Street, stating as my requirements "any decent-looking girl."

Mr. Owen immediately replied on notepaper which is headed, "Inviolable Secrecy. . . Careful Attention. . . Sound Judgment."

The agency adds that it has "unquestionably the most select matrimonial *clientele* in the world." Further, it makes its aims—or alleged aims—clear in these words: "A thoroughly reliable office, established solely for the purpose of arranging introductions between people of the opposite sex who have a genuine desire for matrimony."

Astounding statements

Here, I hoped, was an honest concern more interested in establishing marriages than in collecting fees. I thought at first that my somewhat bald request for "any decent-looking girl" might meet with rebuff.

Apparently, however, Mr. Owen did not mistake my motive, for this is what he writes:

"Your esteemed application form to hand by which I am greatly obliged.

"Judging from your particulars and requirements as set out, I conclude that you wish to meet a nice, refined and pretty girl, in her twenties.

"I have the pleasure to inform you that on my private registers are hundreds of smart young ladies, of superior education and representing all types of beauty.

"If you would wish to secure first-class introductions until you become suited, you would, of course, be expected to join my private *clientele* likewise. The inclusive fees for this would be £10 10s. prepaid for registration. No further charges whatsoever on any account afterwards.

"The registration fee would provide you with unlimited introductions, commencing at once and to be continued until suited."

Pointed questions

I wasn't over keen to part with ten guineas unless in doing so I could definitely establish whether the aim of Mr. Owen and his agency was *bona fide* or whether his main purpose was to accept fees.

So I wrote a letter and made it so pointed in its purpose that I was warned by a friend that it would bring down coals upon my head. Did it? Let us see. I wrote:

"I am obliged for your letter. Your fee is pretty stiff, but it might be worth it if I could be assured of having a fairly decent time with some of the pretty girls you mention.

"Before sending you the ten pounds, which I am prepared to do, would you kindly let me know the procedure? Supposing I don't suit? How many chances am I likely to get? And is the whole thing conducted *privately* and directly between the parties?"

You notice I refer in this purposeful letter to "ten pounds," wondering whether the omission of such a trifling sum as ten shillings would attract the attention of Mr. Owen from his onerous task of finding a wife for me. Notice, too, that there

Mr. Sydney A. Moseley.

is not a word from me about seeking a wife.

What then would this agency, which declares itself as being "thoroughly reliable" and "established solely for those with a genuine desire to marry," say to this?

No questions asked

Mr. Owen replies:

"Many thanks for your reply to my letter of the 25th inst. received this morning.

"The procedure of introduction is quite simple, and if you decide to join you may safely leave the question of privacy in my hands. To begin with, you would be supplied with the names and addresses of several young ladies, specially selected.

"These in turn are notified by me that their name and address has been given to a 'Mr. X. of London,' and that they may expect to hear from you within the course of a few days. All that you have to do is to write them at your leisure and make appointments. Your letter will be expected and looked forward to with eagerness and curiosity.

"If you should not find 'Miss Right' among the first list, simply write to me again for further introductions, and so on 'until suited.' You can have a hundred introductions if you wish."

Nothing could be simpler. Privacy, despatch, *no questions asked*. Now I could see I was well on the way towards making one of the most important exposures of modern times. Here was the head of one of the biggest matrimonial agencies who clearly indicated a complete lack of consciousness of the responsible nature of his business.

But in order to put such a grave matter beyond all possible doubt, I decided to make my last throw. I would send the ten pounds, but in the letter which accompanied the money *I would come out openly as a base adventurer and make this known in as clear terms as possible.*

In the past, whenever some unscrupulous rogue has been sent to prison for defrauding women and it was found from the evidence that the introductions to the victims were made through a matrimonial agency, the excuse has been made that the man had deceived the matrimonial agent himself.

"If I have the least suspicion about a man," one of these agents said unctuously, "I turn him down. Sometimes a man comes to see me and I do not like the look of him. I refuse his fees and send him away."

Terrible position

What piety! What transparent honesty! Let us see, however, how it works out *in practice*. Here am I throwing all my cards on the table and labelling myself as an out-and-out adventurer.

The women, I hope to be able to show, have sent their fees with the sincere purpose of finding a man whom they will sufficiently care for to marry and settle down—clean-minded, decent English girls.

If these fees are accepted on this understanding, and men of the type I openly pretended to be were actually introduced to such young girls, then not only was their money being accepted under false pretences, but *they were being placed definitely in a most terrible and dangerous position.*

Mr. Owen's obvious duty was to turn me down from the first. He does not. He is ready to accept me on my own valuation. That I make myself out to be a cad makes no matter to him. Instead his sole desire is to close his hand on my ten-guinea money order.

Candid admissions

For read my letter to him:

"I enclose money order for £10 as requested.

"Since we are doing business together I think I ought to tell you that when I say I am 'not married,' I mean it in the *real* sense of the word.

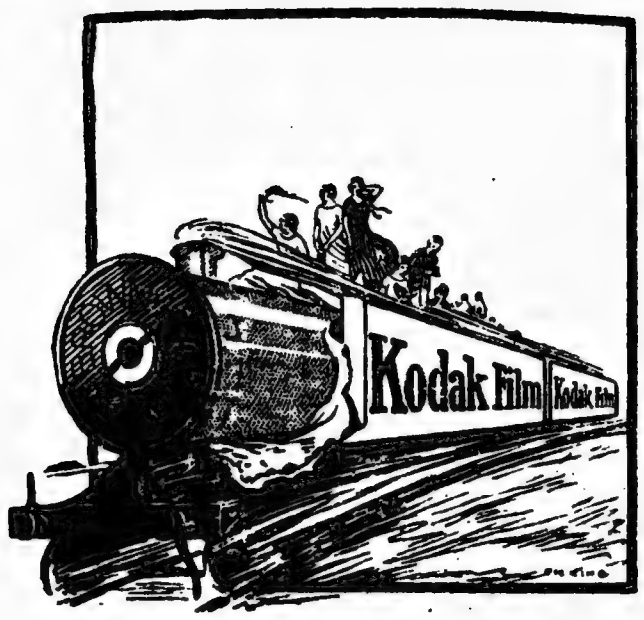
"My wife and I have not hit it for many years and refuses to divorce me. We have never been suited to one another, and I don't see why I should spend the rest of my life without having a good time.

"I note that you say you have specially selected young ladies and this will suit me if you will let me know their names and addresses at once. If you can help me in any other direction I shall be glad."

You see then I have gone further. I have openly declared that I have a wife who refuses to divorce me—which puts marriage out of the question—and that I propose to have "a good time" at the expense of the "selected young ladies" chosen by Mr. Owen.

What reply would he make to that?

[*Read the sensational reply in next week's "John Bull."*]



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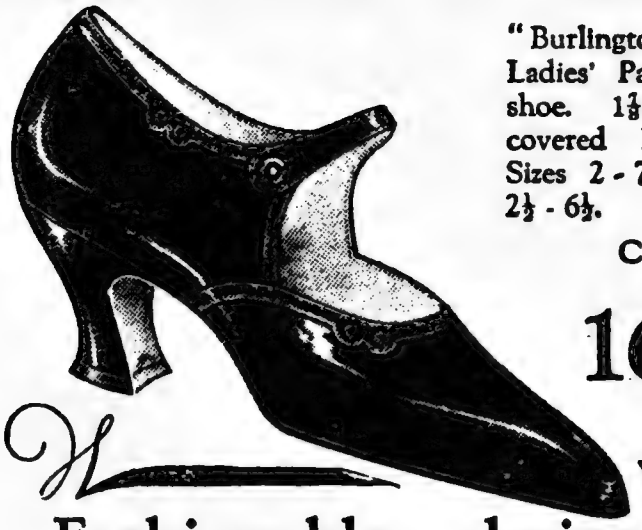

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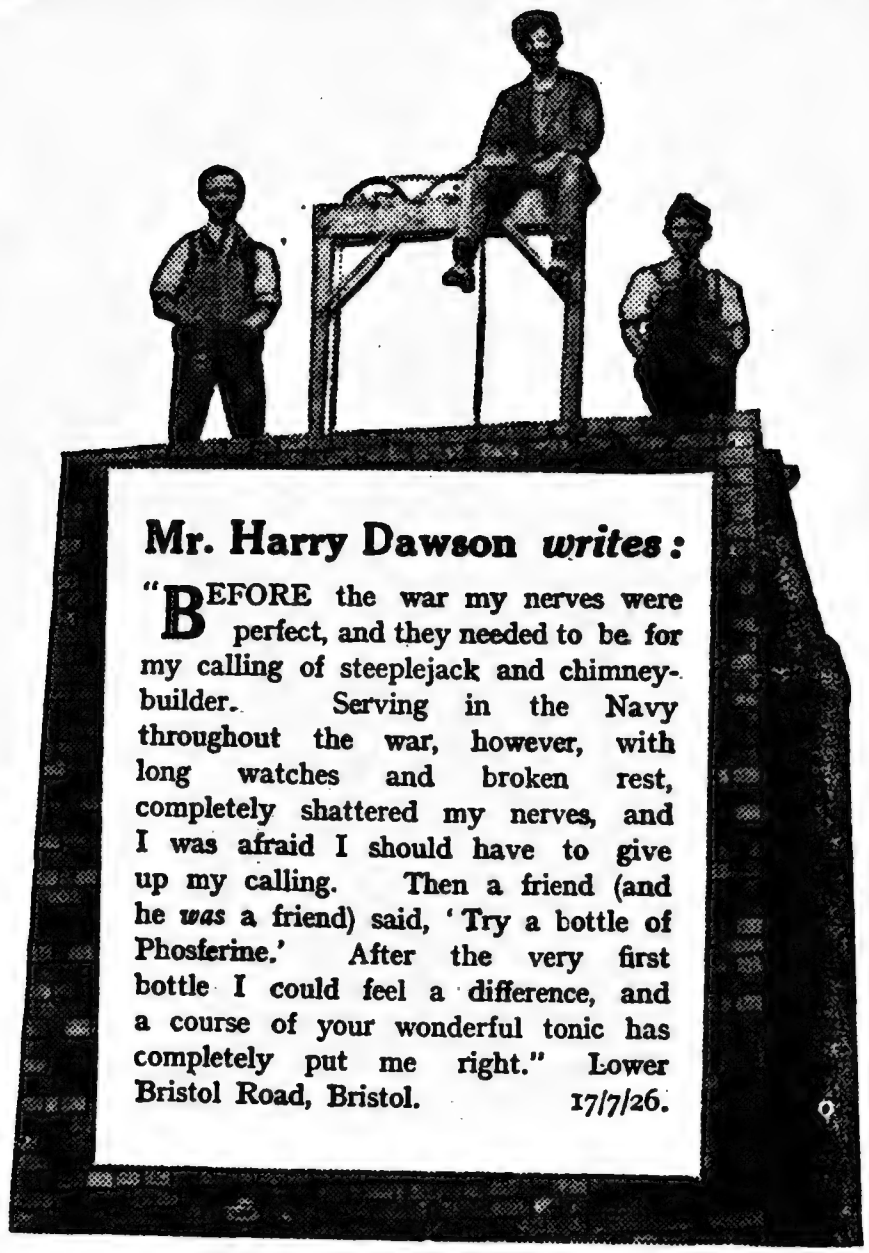

Mr. Harry Dawson *writes:*

"BEFORE the war my nerves were perfect, and they needed to be for my calling of steeplejack and chimney-builder. Serving in the Navy throughout the war, however, with long watches and broken rest, completely shattered my nerves, and I was afraid I should have to give up my calling. Then a friend (and he *was* a friend) said, 'Try a bottle of Phosferine.' After the very first bottle I could feel a difference, and a course of your wonderful tonic has completely put me right." Lower Bristol Road, Bristol. 17/7/26.

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Its flavour stops every mealtime grumble.

THE BLACKMAIL BABY

MOTHERHOOD IN THE MUD

Tragedies of Back Streets

WE have lately called attention to the evils attending the adoption of children by parents who are totally unworthy to be entrusted with the care of the unwanted mite.

A no less glaring scandal is that of the temporary foster-mother, the person who, for a consideration, undertakes to look after babies and small children, whose mothers are, for one reason or another, prevented from fulfilling their maternal duties.

These mothers are of two classes, the struggling working woman who, either through widowhood or some other domestic misfortune, must earn her livelihood and leave her children in the care of others, and, secondly, the unmarried girl, the existence of whose little one is usually kept a strict secret from her employers.

Terrible nurseries

The number of children who, for these reasons, must be placed in the care of foster-mothers is very large, and it is in the experience of most social workers that the supply of foster-mothers of decent character is nothing like sufficient to meet the demands.

The result is the existence in the back streets of the slums and poorer quarters of our great cities of a host of undesirables who eke out a scanty living by nursing other women's babies in squalor and filth.

They are in all respects unfitted for such a duty, and as often as not their charges are the victims of disease and ill-treatment.

In one case, which we recently investigated, we found a shocking state of affairs. The mother, unmarried, was in domestic service. She had "farmed out" her baby to a woman in a Lambeth back street at a payment of 12s. 6d. a week.

She had to take employment many miles away and it was impossible for her to call regularly on the child, although she sent him eggs, fruit and beef tea.

When she was able to visit her baby she hardly recognised him. He was ailing and dirty and had been sleeping with one of the foster-mother's own children, a mental deficient.

The compelling threat

She learned from the neighbours that the child had been frequently beaten and that the foster-mother, who was accustomed to fits of nerves, used to walk him up and down the streets in a push-cart in the small hours of the morning.

In this case, the foster baby was taken away and placed in the care of a clean and decent woman, but this is not always possible.

Very often, if the child is illegitimate and the mother seeks to take him to some home where he will be neither ill-treated nor half-starved, she is met with a threat by the foster-mother that her employer or mistress will be told of the existence of the unwanted child.

Added to this, the average illegitimate mother is not the brightest of women intellectually. Cowed, worn down and shamed, she will put up with almost anything rather than risk a "row" with the foster-mother and consequent exposure.

She stands helpless while her baby, through the cupidity of sheer bru-

Miss Margaret McMillan, whose crèche at Deptford provides a model which could be usefully followed

tality of the foster-mother, is being irretrievably ruined in health.

When the unmarried mother is an intelligent and educated girl, she is even more exposed to this fiendish form of blackmail.

A few days ago the story came to our notice of a certain young woman in a good situation to whom there is the possibility of marriage with a member of her employer's family.

The sacrifice worth while

Her baby is in the care of a foster-mother who is ill-treating it. The poor girl wishes to place the child elsewhere, but is threatened with exposure.

She is in despair, but our advice is to confess everything to the young man, who would have to know sooner or later. This she intends to do, and if it means a sacrifice, it is worth it for the baby's sake.

Under the Children's Act of 1918, it is obligatory for foster-mothers to be registered with the local authority, such as the London County Council, but the Act is evaded on all hands by those most in need of the supervision by inspectors, which, of course, follows registration.

The bad foster-mother will not register because she knows that inspection will inevitably mean the end of this means of a livelihood.

In the same category as these back-street harpies can be placed many of the cheap maternity homes. The unmarried mother who patronises them frequently finds after her baby is born that it is utterly impossible to get the little one into an institution.

As a rule, she must return to work at the end of a fortnight, and the baby is left with the nurse for a payment of ten or twelve shillings a week.

As often as not, the "nurse" is quite untrained to look after one baby, to say nothing of the half-dozen or so who may have been left with her.

An awful sight

The other day a well-known social worker went to one of these places to fetch an illegitimate baby for whom a new home had been found.

He was covered with sores, and one side was thin and undeveloped, although the other was normal, showing that he had lain for four months of his life on one side.

In spite of it, the "nurse" fought strenuously to retain her charge!

In many cases it is hardly fair to blame the foster-mother. She is ignorant to begin with and not intentionally cruel to the other woman's child, and as she has usually to exist on a pound or thirty shillings a week the temptation to earn an extra ten or twelve shillings is strong.

That, however, is hardly sufficient excuse for the wrecking of child-life!

There is an easy and effective way to end the evil of the clandestine foster-mother.

That is in the extension of the crèche system which is now working so successfully in the great cities, but on all too inadequate a scale.

In London, there are only about fifty of these, under the various borough councils, with a few independent places such as the Margaret McMillan Crèche at Deptford.

Is there any reason why municipal councils should not cater for the entire population of small mites whose mothers are unable to give them their whole attention even if it means, in some cases, boarding the children outright?

We see none, particularly as the payments made by the mothers would be quite sufficient, as a general rule, to make the crèche self-supporting without any contribution from the already overburdened rates.

Mothers' agonies

In a hostel where there were trained nurses and a large number of babies, the 12s. 6d. a week now paid to foster-mothers could be spent economically and wisely, and the babies would be accessible to medical care and, above all, the "mothering" without which a baby cannot thrive.

Day crèches are not enough. Mothers compelled to live-in in order to earn their bread must have somewhere for their babies to be all the time, and where the poor girls would not be exposed to all the agonies of blackmail and bullying to which they are now subjected at the first word of protest.

WHO IS THE COLOSSUS?

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TAKE IT FROM ME! — *by THE ORDINARY MAN*

MESSING AND MISSING

Dodging their Dues—Are M.P.s Needed?—Fish and "Chips"

INSTEAD of seeking new avenues of taxation, Winston Churchill should devise means to prevent leakage from existing sources.

It is estimated that the loss to the Treasury on unpaid income-tax and super-tax amounts to £10,000,000 annually, and we are invited to regard this as a reflection upon the honesty of many of the well-to-do; but it is a still more painful reflection on the efficiency of the Inland Revenue Department.

If a private firm allowed bad debts to accumulate on such a scale the ancient and unwelcome Order of the Sack would be freely distributed in the accountancy branch.

Tax-dodgers who transfer fortunes to the Channel Islands or exile themselves to the Riviera, claiming the protection of the British flag while sponging on stay-at-home taxpayers, could very easily be dealt with; but the department is too busy applying the screw to honest, but often impecunious, taxpayers near its own back door.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer is prepared to go to immense trouble to diddle a civilian war victim out of a few hundred pounds, but he does not raise a finger to collect income-tax on the huge sums taken out of this country in royalties on Yankee plays.

* * *

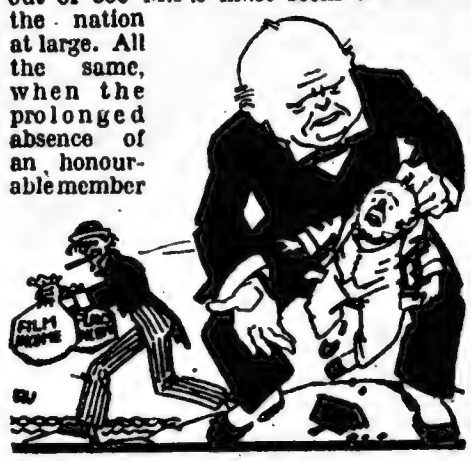
The perpetrators of two American musical comedies which enjoyed long West End runs have alone received more than £100,000 of untaxed royalties. Yet a British author who sells even a short story to a Yankee magazine pays American income-tax.

That large sums due from super-taxpayers should be lost to the Treasury is especially scandalous, for no housewife can escape the payment of breakfast-table taxes, and a clerk or artisan cannot guide his first-best wife or second-best girl through the doors of a cinema without paying amusement tax "on the nail."

Apparently, the loftier one's financial status, the easier it is to dodge one's legal dues to the State.

* * *

Compared with a loss of £10,000,000 annually in tax leakage, the loss of one out of 600 M.P.s must seem a trifle to the nation at large. All the same, when the prolonged absence of an honourable member



Too busy applying the screw to honest, but often impecunious, tax-payers

results in the virtual disenfranchisement of 35,000 voters, some rather eloquent explanations seem called for.

Since May last, Captain Gee, M.P. for Bosworth, has not favoured the House of Commons with his presence. He is, in fact, working in Australia, and shows no signs of coming back.

It is understood that he left his resignation in the hands of the Conservative Chief Whip, but this gentleman is clinging to the said resignation like a drowning camel to the last straw that broke its back, or mixed metaphors to that effect.

Doubtless Conservative headquarters reckon that a Conservative M.P. in Australia is better than a Labour or Liberal M.P. at Westminster, but the 35,000 voters of Bosworth are not to have an opportunity of expressing *their* view of the matter until the next General Election.

Meanwhile the quaint plea is put forward that General Spears, the prospective Conservative candidate, can do just as much for Bosworth as a sitting member. If this is so, why go to the trouble and expense of electing M.P.s?

In fact, why not ship the whole 600 of them to Australia for an indefinite period? Even if they continued to draw £400 a year each, the experiment might be cheap at the price.

None of the members of the Food Council, so far as I know, is in Australia, but there are times when I think they might just as well be, for the Council seems lately to have dropped into a state of coma.

* * *

The facts regarding profiteering in fish, for example, are sufficiently notorious, yet the council can do no better than announce that it "hopes"—"hopes," mark you!—to be able to offer a few remarks on this matter in June.

Until then housewives will just have to go on buying fish at prices which, in many cases, represent an addition of 300 per cent. to the quayside price.

Fish sold at Grimsby at 5d. a lb. is retailed in Birmingham at 1s. 3d. Allow ½d. for freight, a generous 2d. for wastage, and where does the other 7½d. go to? As usual, into the pockets of needless middlemen, who, in addition to the retailer, mostly include a port wholesaler and a wholesale commission salesman in the inland market.

Still, it is pleasing to know that if we can only bear up until June, or maybe July, the council may become quite stern.

The Sentence of the Court

AN OSTRICH IN WHITEHALL

Rural Workers and Urban Shirkers

CHARGED with refusing legitimate employment while in receipt of a dole from the State, Walter Guinness pleaded "Not guilty."

"As various members of the present Government are widely unknown," said Mr. Watchdog, K.C., "I must explain that the accused is Minister of Agriculture. In this capacity he receives £5,000 a year, which practically amounts to unemployment pay, for he has persistently declined to undertake any of the urgent work necessary to re-establish agriculture.

"When the Government's lack of policy in this respect was attacked in the House of Commons, Mr. Guinness' speech was one of the most melancholy efforts ever made at Westminster. He could only plead that the Government was refraining from 'harmful interference' and 'doing what it could in a small way.'

"Since 1891 there has been a decrease of 2,245,000 acres in the land under cultivation, yet while this proceess of land starvation is going on, £15,200,000 is invested in fox-hunting. Potential farmers are being deprived of their earth-right in the interests of what hunting squires regard as their birthright.

"The accused has also shirked another agricultural problem—that of providing adequate wages for farm hands. When the minimum wage stands at 30s. a week, as it still does in some counties, it is not surprising that large numbers of able-bodied rural workers are drifting to the towns."

* * *

Mr. Strawsplitter said that the only scientific solution of the agricultural problem lay in Protection and Government subsidies. To talk of hereditary landowners as "parasites," and fox-hunters as enemies of the farmer, was merely to indulge in verbal class warfare. Much of the money spent on hunting went to agriculturists in payment for horses and provender.

* * *

"I am unable," said Mr. Justice Bull, "to accept the view that land devoted to the cultivation of provender for hunting horses is well employed, any more than I could agree that water power was being employed in the national interest if it were being used for driving merry-go-rounds at village fairs.

"Undoubtedly something drastic will have to be done to alleviate the existing land hunger, especially in Scotland, where the countryside is rapidly being depopulated. The squire in his county house, counting out his money, is not doing badly out of the land, but the community is being badly 'done out' of it.

"An infinite capacity for collecting rents no more makes an agriculturist of an hereditary landowner than a talent for collecting cigarette-cards turns a schoolboy into a tobacco manufacturer. Rural workers will continue to leave the land so long as urban shirkers leave the land problem unsolved.

"This unusually flat 'Guinness' has shown such a genius for ignoring facts and burying his head in a desert of rhetorical sand, that the most appropriate penalty I can impose is three months' penal detention in the ostrich house at the Zoo."

They're worth A POUND A TABLET

Says MR FOLEY

YOU wouldn't sit down and write a letter and post it for fun, would you? Neither would you go to the trouble of writing to a firm whose goods you had been using unless you felt impelled to do so from some strong emotion, such as a sense of injustice or a sense of gratefulness. The only two reasons we can give why pleased users of Aspro write us so many unsolicited testimonials are—

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Thanking you for your wonderful achievement—they are a Godsend to suffering humanity, and are worth a Pound a Tablet. You can use this testimonial as you think fit.

I am, dear Sirs, Yours gratefully, (Signed) J. FOLEY.

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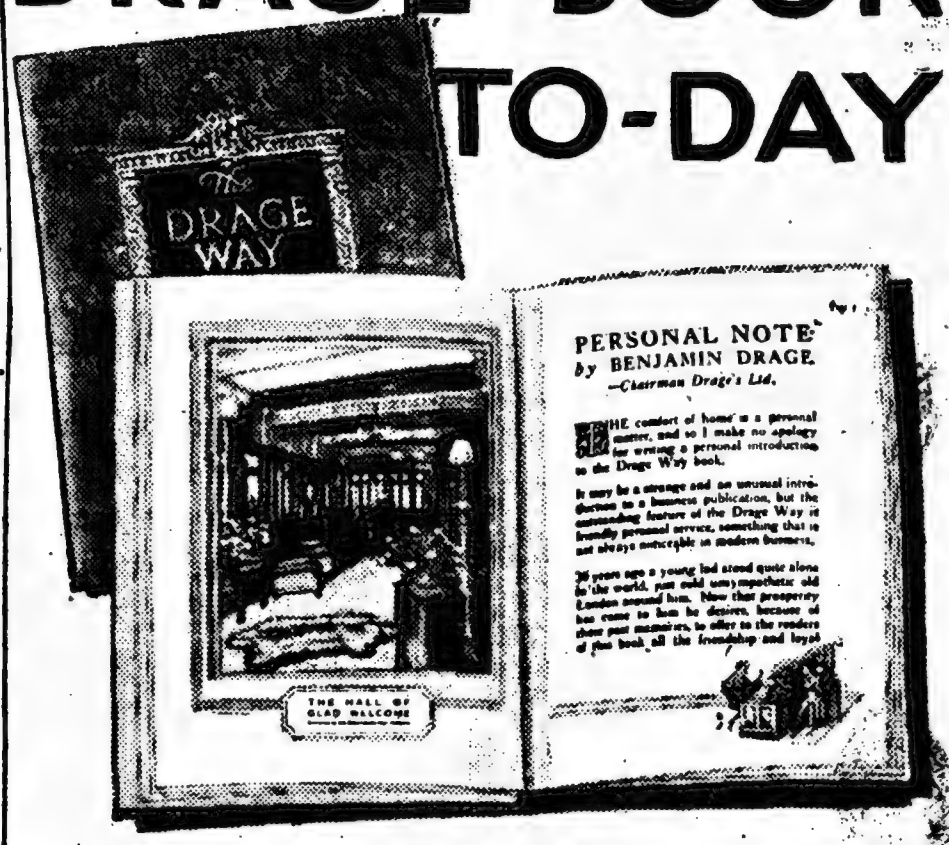

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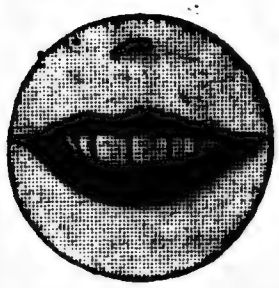

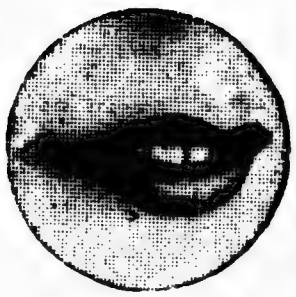

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Words Winged to Women

PROPPING UP THE LAMP-POST!

by **MABEL HORNER**

INACTIVITY and rust of body leads inevitably to rust and decay of mind and character. This deterioration we see going on everywhere in the policy of drift relating to young people's employment

THE biggest problem of modern times is that receiving the least attention from those in authority. The problem may be summed up in two words, juvenile idleness. With regard to conditions and regulations of children's work we have had a good deal of wise legislation.

There is, however, no general legislation relating to the employment of children of school-leaving age. Their conditions are determined by clauses embodied in Acts concerning the various industries where they are subject to being employed.

This safeguarding, although it is the outcome of International Conferences of Labour, as well as the efforts of disinterested humanists at home, still leaves a great deal to be desired. It is one of the urgent reasons why the Factory Acts, growing daily more antiquated, should be immediately overhauled.

The Factory and Workshops Act of 1901 permits the employment of "male young persons over fourteen" (in other words, young growing boys) in certain industries or in any trade by special order.

It is quite possible to drive a coach and horse through such Acts provided only the driver knows how to handle the ribbons, which, in this instance, are made of red tape.

Laws that are useless

Boys of sixteen may be employed at night in iron and steel works, glass works, raw sugar and paper manufacture, and even in blast furnaces, providing that not more than seven nights are so worked in any one fortnight.

We are happily rid of the dreadful spectacle of women and girls going down into the coal-mines, but there are no restrictions on the labour of young boys of fourteen underground.

Children are not allowed to work, nor in some instances to eat their food, where dangerous or unhealthy processes of manufacture are carried on, but the word "unhealthy" is very elastic, and a strict enquiry into the smaller places of manufacture, even in bakeries, would bring surprising facts to light.

The Shops Act of 1912, which secures assistants one half-holiday in the week, has only one clause referring specifically to children, and that limits their hours of labour to seventy-four a week! Errand boys and girls are entirely outside the Act, and so too are domestic servants.

Mr. F. H. Crittall, an employer who has reduced working hours and increased wages. His girl workers are dressed in a gay uniform and "pull as a team"

The Merchant Shipping Act, passed so long ago as 1894, places no restrictions whatever on hours of work for boys: Not until horrible cruelties and abuses came to light were amendments passed in 1920 to ensure sea-going lads being apprenticed to proper persons and that the terms of their service must take an approved form.

So bit by bit, and in face of hot and bitter opposition from interested persons, are laws relating to child life placed upon the Statute Book.

That very many employers treat their young employees better than the law provides must not blind us to the need for constant revision. As a country progresses, so must her young children benefit.

The wonder is that women, since their enfranchisement, have not sunk every other difference, and taken this one great thing into their mothering care. But it is not too late. Even should the present Government last out its statutory span, another General Election is not so far ahead.

And what about the children then? For it is not only the conditions of their employment that must be redetermined, but whether the young folk of the future are to have any satisfactory training and remunerative employment at all.

The real issue

Already we have more than 2,000,000 boys and girls of school-leaving age unemployed, and every year there pours out from our elementary schools another 600,000 wanting jobs.

Are women willing to go on bearing children recklessly for whom there is no place in the world? Are they willing to raise the school-leaving age?

Do they think that part of the taxation should return to them in maintenance for children undergoing training, or that it should tarry until the kiddies drift and line up hopeless for the "dole"?

When the General Election comes women will be invited to look at the "Red Menace," or the "Horrors of Shanghai," or "Bolshie Spendthrifts," or other red herrings that those seeking seats will attempt to draw across their path.

They must have none of these things. They must ask a plain question and demand a satisfactory answer. What is being planned to save our children from destruction? For upon the young folk growing up the very future of the world depends.

She's a Cave Man!

by **MISS VERA BERINGER**

THE he-man, the super-cave man as it were, has, through the medium of the "movies," become a familiar figure. In a minor degree the he-woman has always existed. Isolated instances crop up from time to time of women who spend their lives disguised as men.

Miss Vera Beringer

What used to be labelled some years ago as the "new woman" is also to be observed. Irreproachably tailored, she is "a perfect gentleman" down to her waist, where her courage would appear to fail her, for she fades away ingloriously into a skirt.

But lately there has arisen in our midst a more subtle, a more insidious type, the he-girl. Her origin is not easy to fathom. Can it be that the serpent of decadence has hissed over her cradle this terrible decree? She shall be neither man nor woman.

At a big society function the other night my ears gave me the first clue to the presence of two bright young specimens.

"Did you get tight last night?" asked a deep and melodious voice. "Nothing doing in that line with that crowd," came the regretful contralto reply. "Hard luck. I was blotto, simply blotto." "Lucky swine." The tone was low and dulcet.

I looked round to discover the identity of the young men, and saw, not two boys as I had expected, but girls, and remarkably pretty girls too.

SLIM-FIGURED, daintily gowned, feet elegantly shod, hands elaborately manicured, hair—here my gaze was arrested. Their hair was cut short, shorter if anything than the average man's. It was clipped well away from their ears, from which, and this seemed a curious anomaly, long and bizarre ear-rings dangled.

Boyish in her outlook on life and in her relationships, whether male or female, boyish also in her love of freedom and adventure; feminine in her fastidiousness, and in her faculty for wriggling out of the consequences of the adventures into which that boyish spirit leads her; interested in sex, but not wholly alive to it; her attitude towards maternity summed up in the words "No use for kids," it would be a bold man who would venture to make her his wife, a sad little child who was forced to call her "mother."

THAT she is a danger it would be useless to deny. Possessing outwardly the allurement of femininity, she hangs out no red light by which a man may be warned of the possible peril and so tread warily.

What then is his fate, if, when too late to retrace his steps, he sees the girl, whom he has looked upon as a woman in embryo, turn into an unapproachable sexless creature before his horrified eyes? What hope is there for him?

One, and one only. That the feminine side of the he-girl's nature may, through the power of a man's love, be wakened within her.

But if the serpent of decadence has through the poison of his sting paralysed her normal sex-instinct, then will Nature, that angel of the flaming sword, banish poor modern Adam and his degenerate Eve from their legitimate Paradise.

Only one road then lies open, the muddy road leading to the divorce court, where Justice will utter the stern decree of nullity over the unhappy pair, a decree uttered both in sorrow and *in camera*.

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THOUSANDS of homes are now undergoing the Annual Spring-clean, and many a housewife will have discovered with surprise how Winter has left its mark on curtains and other home furnishings. To make home bright and cheerful for Spring and Summer days, all worn and faded things should be replaced. To help you in this, the great Berkeley Factories offer a splendid range of Loose Covers, Furnishing Fabrics, Cushions and Curtains at exceptionally low prices. Then there is the famous Berkeley Easy Chair, upholstered in tasteful Tapestries, Damasks and Cretonnes, to add brightness and beauty to the home. Luxuriously upholstered and sprung, and made for utmost comfort and lasting wear, the Berkeley is unsurpassed for value. Delivered free for 10/- with order. Send for Patterns NOW!

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Colgate's Handy Grip Stick in Nickel Container, 1/3

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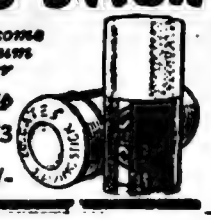

Human Documents

A Wife Without a Smile

Raking Up the Past — Cruel Deception — A Shabby Dodge

PROBLEMS that may be yours are dealt with by "Humanist." The names and addresses of all correspondents are suppressed so that the writers may not be identified. Letters that are too intimate or are not sufficiently general to be helpful to others are answered by post. All correspondents must send stamped, addressed envelopes. Ten shillings is being sent to each of the writers of the first four letters printed

"CAN you help a dear friend of mine who is in a terrible state of mind, largely as a result of her own wrong-doing?

"Some years ago her husband took a situation which necessitated their removing to a house which is somewhat isolated.

"My friend did not wish to go as her nerves were bad, and she feared the loneliness, but she had always been very much subject to her husband and his will prevailed.

"There is a family of bonny children, and my friend, who had always been one of the best of mothers, worked early and late, sewing and mending to keep the little ones decently clad, and took in extra work to eke out her husband's scanty wages.

"For a time her devotion to her household duties prevented her feeling her loneliness, but after a year or so her husband became friendly with a fellow-workman, who paid frequent visits to the house.

"This friend eventually proved a terrible enemy, for he commenced to call upon her in her husband's absence, and made advances to which she, unfortunately, yielded.

"There was terrible trouble when the relationship came to light and divorce was threatened, but both my friend and the man confessed their fault, and the husband forgave them on the man's promise never to go near the place again.

"Unfortunately, the promise has not been kept. I found this out through questioning my friend as to why she always appeared so wretched and despondent, and tried to point out to her that her sin having been forgiven it should no longer be a burden on her conscience.

"It was then she told me that the relationship had been renewed, and that she dared not confess to her husband a second time.

"She has urged her husband to take her away from the locality, but he refuses to do so, although he could easily obtain a situation elsewhere.

"I do not care to tell him the reason his wife is so anxious to move, yet a complete change appears to be the only way of saving the family from ruin and disgrace, and it is heartbreaking to see my friend being made so miserable through her own weakness of character."

"HUMANIST" says: *It is a great pity that your friend did not tell her husband of the man's renewed advances before things had come to such a pass, but the only possible means of salvation is for her to confess and explain that she wishes to move in order to be rid of the evil influence which is blighting her life. There would be some hope that her husband would understand and forgive, but if she allows the present situation to continue ruin seems certain.*

* * *

"I AM writing on behalf of a chum who is a non-commissioned officer in the regular Army. Before his enlistment, he was sentenced to a short term of imprisonment for what was little worse than a boyish escapade, but, unfortunately, he concealed this fact when he enlisted.

Blackmail for Drink

"His only relative who brought him up is a man who seems to live only for the pleasure of drinking. It was mainly due to this man's ill-treatment that my chum joined the Army.

"Lately, my friend received from him a demand for 10s. weekly, which he refused. His refusal was followed by a threat that if the money was not forthcoming the military authorities would be informed of his misdemeanour and he would probably be court-martialled.

"Fearing the consequences if he persisted in his refusal, my soldier pal has for some time been sending this money.

"Though it seems to me sheer blackmail, I scarcely know how to advise him. If he confesses to his commanding officer, he will probably get into trouble; if he refuses to pay, and the threat is carried out, the result will no doubt be the same; if he continues to pay, he will know that the money is squandered in drink by a man who hates him.

"Your kindly counsel would earn the heartfelt thanks of a man whose only fault was his hoping that an incident of which he was ashamed might remain forgotten."

"HUMANIST" says: *Tell your friend to explain the whole matter frankly to his commanding officer. His record of service which has earned him promotion will no doubt be taken into consideration and set against the fault he committed in not disclosing his conviction when he enlisted. In any case, his confession will deprive his blackmailer of any opportunity of making further demands upon him.*

* * *

"WHEN I was twenty-one I met, and subsequently married, an alien at a register office. We did not live very happily together, and some time afterward, in the course of a quarrel, he told me that he had married me in a false name.

An Alien's Deception

"The method of his deception was this: he had obtained the papers of a cousin of his residing abroad, including his birth certificate, and impersonated his cousin for the purpose of the marriage, which, he told me, was not registered in his own country.

"Two years later he was deported and for a long time now I have not heard from him. He has never contributed towards my support and it seems very hard if I am to remain tied for life to a man I may never see again.

"Can you please tell me whether this marriage is valid, or what steps I can take to free myself?"

"HUMANIST" says: *In the ordinary way a fraud practised in order to deceive one of the parties to a marriage regarding the identity of another would be accepted as a ground for annulment, and as your case appears to come in this category I should think you would be well advised to consult a solicitor with a view to taking action.*

"I AM a surface-worker at a coal-mine. Four men are detailed to clean a certain amount of coal. Each day a test is made, and a fine is imposed if the coal should contain more than a certain proportion of refuse.

Workers and Shirkers

"Two of the four men are, to put it mildly, shirkers, with the result that two willing workers, of whom I am one, are constantly being fined while doing their best.

"I have spoken to these shirkers several times about their conduct, but they say that as they cannot get a decent wage they might as well take things easy.

"If I speak to the manager, it may result in their dismissal, and I shall incur their hatred.

"Whether wages are low or not, they are regulated by the local wages board to which the men, as you know, are party.

"That being so, the honourable thing to do, in my opinion, is to work diligently and hope that our diligence may be rewarded by an increase in the wage rates.

"The shirkers, however, take up the attitude that the only way in which they can get their own back and retaliate against what they consider inadequate pay is to work less and so equalise matters."

"HUMANIST" says: *Report the matter to the management. It is altogether unjust that you should be penalised for the sake of shirkers, and you are not likely to suffer in the end from any enmity which may result from your effort to justify yourself. Wage wars have always been won by workers rather than by shirkers.*

* * *

A Matter of Means

"Lack of work has prevented me marrying and taking my wife to Australia as we had planned and my fiancée has gone there ahead. She wishes me to join her, but my father is now also workless, and I feel I ought to help my parents. What should I do?"

"Humanist" says: *Your desire to help your parents is admirable, but it is a matter of means. If there is work waiting for you in Australia, you can best do justice all round by sailing to wed your fiancée and sending home what you can afford.*

A Half-way Husband

"As a widow with a little child, I have remarried. The child remains with my mother as my husband's parents live in his house and he is afraid the little one would annoy them. Will he have to pay for the child's education when the time arrives?"

"Humanist" says: *In marrying you, your husband made himself responsible for your child and he should not stop halfway in meeting his obligations. He will be liable for the little one's maintenance and education and I hope for the sake of your happiness he will not insist upon your remaining separated from your child.*

The Greatest Good

"My friend has been jilted and left with a baby boy. She is taking steps to get an affiliation order, but meanwhile she would like to get her child adopted for his own good."

"Humanist" says: *Adoption should be the last thought of unmarried mothers, not the first. It is bad enough for the child to be practically fatherless and the greatest good she can confer on her little boy is to give him a mother's love.*

Health and Happiness

IF you enjoy good health, you have one of the most important ingredients of happiness. There are many poor folk who have been deprived of happiness solely through loss of health. You can convey comfort and consolation to them by sending a subscription to "The Greatest of These—" Fund. (See page 38.)

COMMON SENSE TALKS
No. 4.

IF *I were King.*

*

If Old Common Sense ruled unchallenged, what a wonderful world this would be to be sure!

*

Everybody would do all the right things in the right way

*

All my subjects would use *powder* for their teeth

*

They would all use it *dry*—the Common Sense way really to clean and polish

*

They would use only powder containing the Common Sense antiseptic—refreshing, healthful Carbolic

*

In fact, the National Dentifrice would be Calvert's Carbolic Tooth Powder—if Common Sense were King.

*

Calvert's
Carbolic Tooth Powder
THE "COMMON SENSE" DENTIFRICE.
Sold in 6d., 1/- and 1/6 tins.

£100,000 RUGS GIVEN AWAY

This Phenomenal Offer is made to the readers of *John Bull*. On receipt of P.O. for **10/6** (carr. 1/- extra) we will forward direct from our looms to your address, one of our "Prudential" Reversible Real SEAMLESS WOVEN BORDERED CARPETS (Guaranteed Genuine Bargains), Suitable for Drawing-room, Dining-room, Bedroom, 2 x 1, in Tapestry patterns and fashionable shades of Crimson, Greens, Blues and Art Colourings to suit all requirements, and large enough to cover any ordinary sized room. These Carpets with FREE RUGS will be sent out as Sample Carpets. They are made of material equal to wool, and can only be obtained direct from our looms, thus saving the purchaser all middle profits. Money willingly refunded if not approved.

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4th - - £500
and over 300 OTHER PRIZES from £500 downwards
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in a few weeks' time!

and see your dreams come true. £10,000, the first prize in The "Character" Ballot, is within YOUR grasp and in a few weeks someone HAS GOT TO WIN this fabulous sum. But HURRY—HURRY—only 14 days left to buy your tickets (see closing date below). Send the order form to-day—before you forget. Over 300 prizes to be won—ALL GUARANTEED. BE QUICK!

Sale of Tickets Closes 23rd April, *14 extra days after above date allowed for competitors to send in entries.*

N.B.—All "Y" Tickets (brown, mauve, red, or gold) should be sent in immediately.

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TICKETS only 2/6 each (5 for 10/-)

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In aid of the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund and the Cinematograph Trade Benevolent Fund.

A charming Sterling Silver Mascot Free will be sent you for luck if you use 10/- worth of tickets.

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Please send me *tickets for the "Character" Ballot at 2/6 each, for which I enclose*

£.....s.....d. and stamped (1½d.) addressed envelope.*

NAME.....

ADDRESS .....

J.B. 94. .....

**Cheques and P.O.'s should be crossed "& Co.," and made payable to "The Character Ballot."*

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To enable you to *prove for yourself* at our expense that our cheapest No. 400A Mead "Marvel" cycle is vastly superior to very costly machines sold in shops, we will send one to you direct from our factory, packed free and carriage paid, immediately you remit 2/6 Deposit.

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THE "JOHN BULL" GUARANTEE APPEARS ON PAGE 35.

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IS THE FOREMOST FIRST-AID

Accidents will happen—and they happen without warning. Be on the safe side—always keep a tin of Germoline handy. This aseptic skin dressing is acknowledged to be a most valuable first aid in cases of cuts, burns and scalds, and it is pre-eminent as a treatment for all the more serious skin complaints. Use Germolene for—

Eczema, Rashes, Eruptions, Ulcers, Pimples, Sores, Scurf, Burns, Piles, Poisoned Wounds, Cuts, Rough Red Skin, Scalds, Ringworm, Impetigo, Chilblain.

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The "7 Point" Shilling Face Powder

Perspiration does not affect it.
No more shiny noses.
Admired by men.
No more dried-up wrinkled skins.
Stays on in spite of wind and rain.

1
Prevents a shiny nose and greasy-looking skin because of the Mousse of Cream that's in it. (Patented process).

2
Clings to your skin in spite of strong, gusty winds, rainy weather, or perspiration from dancing in a warm room.

3
Contains no starchy rice powder to swell in your pores, clog them and cause blackheads, pimples, and other blemishes.

4
No small gritty particles to irritate and roughen soft, delicate skins. Guaranteed pure and harmless.

5
Air-floated and silk-sifted — the lightest powder made. Cannot be detected on the face. No suggestion of artificiality.

6
Prepared in Rachel, Natural, Pink, Light Pink, and White Shades. A tint to match every type of complexion.

7
A shilling a box, also Compacts in new style dainty gilt case, with mirror and puff at 1/6. Refills 9d.

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BRITISH MADE.

The COMET MOTOR is a smart little car for children 2-5 years old. Has an easy running crank action drive, and is painted red with yellow lines. Lamp and Motometer included. Mounted on spoked wheels with ½in. wired-on rubber tyres. As illustrated, **21/-**.

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Letter Parliament

A Monstrous Vested Interest

Bread Horrors—Blighted Lives—Gingering M.P.s

R. E. ROFFE THOMPSON, in his article, "A Big Trust to Smash," has denounced too strongly the insatiable acity of ground landlords. The Bible s that the earth is the Lord's and the ness thereof, but the Biblical chronicler not mean the landlord. He was erring to the Father of all mankind, o created the earth for the sole purpose ensuring to all His children peace, sperity, health and happiness.—*G. P., lls.*

The Gift of Kings

The reason why JOHN BULL has such a llowing is because of its humanity and ristian truths. Now I find another tstanding example, exposing our initous land system. What right had cient kings to give land, belonging to sterity, to their numerous illegitimate spring?—*M. L., Greenock.*

A Bothering Bogey

Mr. E. Roffe Thompson may have itten better articles than "A Big Trust Smash," but, if so, I have not seen em. Law, justice and equity, for once, found in agreement. England belongs the English people. Only let Mr. urchill give effect to this inspiring ism, as your contributor invites him to , and the Bolshevik bogey need not ther the Cabinet. Then, truthfully, can be claimed that an Englishman's home his castle, and his country a land fit for roes.—*H. W. L., Platstow.*

Can They Blush?

Mr. E. Roffe Thompson's splendid icle, "A Big Trust to Smash," should ake landowners blush with shame. e vast sums demanded from business oprietors is a strangulation upon trade, d adds a greater burden upon the untry's workers. Profiteering is bad ough, but rent grabbing is purely high- y robbery of the worst possible kind. nemployment will never decrease under ch scandalous conditions.—*B. L. J., rrey.*

A Barbarous Bar

Until the land is freed of its many cumbrances, it will be a bar to social ogress. The toll which is levied on the ople of this country, because the land in the hands of its "owners," is normal, and most of the country's oblems exist simply because the land so monopolised. A sweeping reform is ng overdue.—*Chas. W. Morton, Birkenad.*

The Only Way

Mr. Roffe Thompson's exposure of the al position of our so-called land owners ust have been an eye-opener to most of readers. If the present Government s not the courage to face the land estion, there still remains a means of dress for the victims. Let the people ake it the issue at the next General ction, and return to Westminster only ose candidates who will pledge themves to bring about a radical reform in r wicked land system.—*J. M. J., Barry.*

The Humble Kipper

I discussed Mr. Newte's article in JOHN LL on food prices with one of the gest fishcurers in Grimsby, who said: deliver kippers hygienically packed in parate pairs to the midlands at 3s. to 9d. per stone, carriage paid. These e are retailed at 6d. and 7d. per pair, d it is an extremely good pair that ighs a pound. Can you beat that for ofiteering?" Frankly I cannot. The ocess by which the democratic kipper comes an epicurean tit-bit is unhomable.—*R. H., Grimsby.*

Brief to-the-point letters not exceeding 100 words are invited. 5s. is paid for each letter published. Name and address essential, not necessarily for publication. Envelopes must be marked "Letter Parliament."

War Horrors

Mr. McCabe's contention, in JOHN BULL of March 26, that war is now more humane than in the past is misleading. The ultimate object of war is to make life impossible for the enemy. Terrorism is the essence of warfare, and to-day not alone armies, but the belligerent nations themselves, are menaced with destruction. The world is pouring out wealth in its endeavours to pile horror upon horror, and as it succeeds in its efforts war must necessarily become more inhuman.—*L., Regent's Park.*

Lest We Forget!

Mr. McCabe's revelations of the terrible conditions prevailing in the "good old times" is a necessary corrective of the prevailing pessimism. But do not let us forget that though social conditions have greatly improved there is still much to be done. Slums are still rampant, grinding poverty still exists, and prostitution is still an evil way out of degrading homes. The wheels of reform do certainly go round, but far too slowly.—*A. G. R., Deptford.*

Tap Profits

Whilst the so-called bread "improvers" are allowed to be sold, the baker will use them. By adding one pound of "improver" to a sack of flour an extra gallon of water can be added. This means ten more loaves to every sack and an additional profit of 3s. 4d. per sack to the baker out of the tap.—*Dusty, Lincs.*

Feet Kneading!

JOHN BULL refers to hand kneading of bread, in the absence of machinery, as being "insanitary." Would not that word apply with even greater force to kneading with the feet? A baker I know well invariably uses his feet, and he assures me that that method of kneading is common, as hand-kneading is too heavy work. —*Rossendale Valley.*

Printers' Pie

(Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of every item published. Mark envelopes "Pie."

"SOUTH WESTERN STAR":—"Her sight and HEARING were very good, but she was slightly DEAF."

"CHATHAM AND DISTRICT NEWS":—"Antiques, China, Furniture, Silver Plate, all sorts of USELESS things at ——'s Sale."

"GLAMORGAN GAZETTE" (Advert.):—"For Sale; Two feather beds: excellent condition; no reasonable offer REQUIRED."

"BELFAST TELEGRAPH":—"A fall in the cost of living is due to reductions in retail prices of various articles of FOOD, notably eggs and COAL."

"MANCHESTER EVENING CHRONICLE":—"A DAUGHTER has been born to Lady ——. This is the second SON of the marriage."

FAST TIMERS TO FOLLOW

Don't follow the Time Test blindly in picking the winner. See what the "JOHN BULL Racing Annual" (price 3d.) has to say about it.

One-eyed Justice

At Liverpool a poor woman was sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment for obtaining 4s. by false pretences. She pleaded that she did it because her baby wanted a frock. At another town two men were summoned for giving short weight in coal. The Town Clerk asked the magistrate to take a serious view of the case, saying, "It was the poor who suffered most." They were fined 2s. 6d., and 2s. 6d. costs. Which was the greater wrong?—*G. A., Rowley Regis.*

A School Scandal

The Government recently admitted that the number of condemned schools—that is, schools which have been reported as unsuitable and incapable of improvement—was 623, and the number of children attending them was about 160,000. Besides these there are very many other schools at present unsuitable which can be improved. These condemned schools mean comparative misery at present and perhaps blighted lives for those children who attend them.—*Stanley L. Whitby, Glos.*

Getting it Home

I have written the following letter to Dr. Watts, M.P., and would suggest that all your readers write to their M.P.s in a similar strain: "Dear Sir,—I enclose a cutting from JOHN BULL, referring to the hard case of Reggie Ford's blighted life, and beg to inform you that, as a family man, I shall have no option but to vote against the Conservative Party at the next election, unless the Home Secretary takes the necessary steps to return the poor lad to his parents. Officialdom that allows such things to happen is on a par with that Bolshevism which your Party so rightly condemns."—*A Chorltonian Parent.*

Masks for Miners

Is there any reason why every miner when down below should not always have on his person some simple gas-mask that would give him a fighting chance when running from the deadly after-damp. If objections be raised on account of encumbrances not being wanted by men at work, it should be remembered that millions of soldiers in the Great War added that small weight to their working equipment without undue inconvenience.—*A. J., Blackheath.*

Frenchmen First

In spite of all the bunkum raised by the French Press regarding unemployment, the papers contain columns of "situations offered." But in practically every case it clearly states "Frenchmen only needed." A famous motor firm selling cars in Britain repeats this in big letters. This is quite all right, and firms should think of their own countrymen first. But when English advertisements appear saying only Frenchmen need apply, it gives a patriotic Englishman, who has done his bit, cause for wonder and not a little disgust.—*Despairing, France.*

Detestable Touting

I have been interested in the question of touting for undertakers for some years, and wherever opportunity presented itself to me I have endeavoured to scotch these touts. Being engaged in the insurance profession I have had ample opportunity of observing this detestable method of securing orders for the burial of the dead. This touting is very prevalent amongst a great many industrial insurance agents. It is surprising to me that the Undertakers Association has not taken some steps before now to stop this distasteful business.—*Agent, Manchester.*

"Every Picture tells a Story."

Why endure Backache?

YOUR KIDNEYS are probably to blame. Weakness of these organs leads to backache, headaches, dizziness, nervousness and urinary disorders. Why not prevent this by taking an occasional course of Doan's Backache Kidney Pills? Many serious kidney complaints and cases of rheumatism, inflamed bladder, dropsy and sciatica have been entirely relieved by Doan's Pills.

Kidney Trouble after 'Flu

On 7th February, 1916, Mrs. E. Gerrish, 32, Ingledew Road, Plumstead, S.E.18, said: "Just over a year ago, influenza left me with kidney trouble, and I was laid up for three weeks. I was so racked with backache that I couldn't move. My strength failed me, and I seemed to be breaking up altogether. The urinary system was in a disordered state.

"At this stage I tried Doan's Backache Kidney Pills. I only needed two boxes, for they made me quite well."

On 9th September, 1926, Mrs. Gerrish said: "My health continues good. I derived lasting benefit from Doan's Pills. (Signed) E. Gerrish."

Do as Mrs. Gerrish did. Ask distinctly for DOAN'S. 3/- per box.

DOAN'S
Backache Kidney Pills

Sole Proprietors: Foster-McClellan Co., London, W.1

Take BILAX to-night

Bed-time is Bilax-time in thousands of British homes.

This laxative medicine excels in overcoming constipation, bilious attacks, sick headaches.

50 Sugar-coated Bilax 1/3 per bottle. All dealers

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Douglas Stuart

(Scotland), Ltd.

"Douglas Stuart is something more than a double event king . . . . . He rules an Empire of satisfied punters."—*John Bull.*

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Follow the Money at Newmarket—Long-shots for the Epsom Double

I HAVE been asked for winners for Newmarket, but writing a week in advance of racing at the headquarters of the flat it is like searching for needles in a haystack. I have told my correspondents to wait for the code selections.

THE entries are on the big side, and many stables have double and treble engagements. As a rule it pays to follow the money and back first and second favourites, and I do not think punters who adopt this hint will find themselves out of pocket.

MY tip for the Column Produce Stakes is Bold Archer, in spite of his Newbury display, and I shall be very interested to see how he runs. Last year this race revealed the Derby winner, and the 40 to 1 runner up. Coronach, with Joe Childs in the saddle, won easily from Lancegaye by three lengths. Lancegaye was receiving fifteen pounds.

AT Epsom, at level weights, the Manton outsider was beaten by five lengths, but he left the starting-gate slowly and had to make up at least twenty lengths before he reached his field. The Manton "strawberries" seldom ripen before June, but I expect Gloconda to reach the first three in the Produce Stakes.

ONE or two dismal Jimmies have sent me abusive letters for stating that Asterus was to remain in England. Ladies are not the only people privileged to change their minds, and in this case the decision to take the French horse back to France was reached after my notes were written.

DENMAN wants the horse to meet a few of his middle-distance engagements in France, and his next appearance in England will be at Ascot, with the Royal Hunt Cup as his selected race unless the handicapper is too severe. Otherwise the horse may go for weight-for-age events of a mile or thereabouts at the royal meeting.

SOME weeks ago I mentioned that Mr. Meyrick Good, of *The Sporting Life and Sportsman*, was broadcasting the Grand National as an experiment for the B.B.C. I received a host of letters from people who were unable to get to Aintree, but found the listening-in almost as exciting.

THE B.B.C. are making plans for a similar broadcast of the Derby, and they are going a step further. In addition to the race itself, "Ring" sounds will be included. There will be plenty of atmosphere, particularly if some of the gentle layers are in good voice.

GERMANY represented by Weissdorn, England by Bulger, and France by Coram head the acceptance for the second leg of the Epsom double, the City and Suburban. Lower down the scale are half a dozen horses which have taken part in the Derby, or other classic races, Embargo, Sparus, Finglas, Pantera, Donzelon and Priory Park.

IF they all go to the post it will be the best field for the race for many years. Embargo is spoken of as a rod in pickle, but the high-class horses are often beaten by moderate handicappers. I shall not be surprised if Epsom wins the Epsom prize—Clonespoe is nicely weighted with 6 st. 13 lb.

I INTEND to make money this season by backing Try, Try Again in all her engagements. The mare was my tip in JOHN BULL for the Newbury Autumn Cup, which she won at 7 to 1, and also my code selection for the Cesarewitch. I think she would have won the long-distance event, too, if she had not gone amiss on the morning of the race.

THE mare has changed stables since last season, but she is still owned by Mr. P. W. Carr, brother, I think, of the skipper of the Nottingham county cricket team. I notice that he has accepted with the five-year-old for the Great Metropolitan, and the course, with its awkward turns, should suit the mare.

H. Leader, who now trains Try, Try Again

TRY, TRY AGAIN won her first race on the popular little circus track at Alexandra Park a couple of seasons ago. The race was under £200 in value. It would probably require four figures to buy her now.

TO see all is to know 'all. I drew over one of the favourites last week, and I considered myself very lucky. The respected member of Tatt's who paid me was of the same opinion. He remarked, as he handed over the Fishers: "You are fortunate, sir. If there had been two triers in that race I am afraid you would not have won." I suppose I ought not to grouse as I received, but most of the layers are much more wide awake than the Stewards.

IDOLO DI SAVOIA won so easily at Liverpool in heavy going that he must be rated a horse of exceptional stamina. He is a brother of the great Fillbert de Savoie, and he was so late in coming to hand that the trainer of Lord Derby in France advised that the horse should be sold out of the stable as unlikely to justify the cost of keeping in training. He is now to remain in England and will meet engagements on the flat.

M. MARCEL BOUSSAC is sending Banstar across for the City and Suburban. The horse is thought to be well-enough treated in this race with only 8 st. 4 lb. in the saddle. His connections were of the opinion that he stood an outstanding chance in the Derby last year, but he went wrong and had to be taken out. He is a good-looking son of our 1911 Derby winner, Sunstar.

SOMETIMES the French obtain reliable news of the intentions of English stables as part of their plans for sensing their own horses to meet most likely engagements. The Biribi people have received definite news from a reliable source indicating that Coronach is not likely to be in the Gold Cup field at Ascot owing to training difficulties. I have reason to believe that this information is from the right source.

TWO of my friends were recently the leading figures in a little gem in the way of a racing story. They decided to visit a small Saturday meeting, and went by car. At the entrance gates their guide and philosopher, who was driving, bent down and whispered to the man in charge: "Two chiefs." The poor fellow was evidently a little deaf for he muttered "Two thiefs!" dashed off and returned with a policeman.

QUICK RETURN, the neatly Scooter colt, beat my code selection Bohemia by three lengths at Leicester, but O'Sullivan's filly was unlucky, as the race was run. She was squeezed out in the early stages and lost by at least eight lengths. Bohemia will pay to follow.

"SILVER RING."

Two coded selections will be given daily in the dollowing papers:—

Sporting Life and Sportsman, Chronicle Mid-day, Sporting Pink, Western Mail, Glasgow Noon Record, Irish Independent, Sporting Man, The Sheffield Mail, Leeds Mid-day Sporting Special Birmingham Mail.

W P V R G Z 3 L S F I A U H

T K E X O B C Q M 2 N Y D J

How to read the code: In place of the letters or figures advertised in the daily papers read those above or below the line as the case may be. 3GXGIY3J would read CORONACH.

The code will be changed in next week's JOHN BULL. It covers the racing from Wednesday, April 6, to Tuesday, April 12.

"Soccer"

WEEK-END COUPS

6 HOME.—Blackburn, Sunderland, Portsmouth, Bradford, Nelson, Plymouth.
5 HOME.—Bury, Reading, Bradford, Nelson, Airdrieonians.
4 HOME.—Barnsley, Portsmouth, Chesterfield, Doncaster.
3 AWAY.—Middlesbrough, Celtic, Glasgow Rangers.
3 DRAWS.—Notts Forest v. Preston, Queen's Park Rangers v. Luton, Partick v. Motherwell.
3 HOME, 2 AWAY.—Bradford, Doncaster, Nelson, Middlesbrough, Celtic.
1 HOME, 1 AWAY, 1 DRAW.—Reading, Newcastle, Wednesday v. Aston Villa.

FORECASTS FOR APRIL 16

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION I.

HOME WINNERS.—Aston Villa, Bolton, Burnley, Cardiff, Leeds, Liverpool, Newcastle.

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Selections

AWAY WINNERS.—Blackburn, West Bromwich.
DRAWS.—Derby v. Huddersfield, Sheffield U. v. Sunderland.

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION II.

HOME WINNERS.—Bradford C., Chelsea, Clapton O., Middlesbrough, Notts Co., Preston, Southampton, Wolverhampton.
AWAY WINNER.—Blackpool.
DRAWS.—Hull v. Darlington, South Shields v. Manchester C.

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION III. (Northern)

HOME WINNERS.—Crewe, Halifax, Hartlepools, Lincoln, Rochdale, Tranmere.
AWAY WINNERS.—Doncaster, Stoke.
DRAWS.—Southport v. Walsall, Stockport v. Nelson.

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION III. (Southern)

HOME WINNERS.—Brentford, Brighton, Bristol R., Exeter, Luton, Merthyr, Millwall, Southend, Swindon.
AWAY WINNER.—Plymouth.
DRAW.—Norwich v. Bristol C.

THE SCOTTISH LEAGUE.

HOME WINNERS.—Dundee, Dunfermline, Falkirk, Kilmarnock, St. Mirren.
AWAY WINNER.—Airdrie.
DRAW.—Hamilton v. Glasgow Rangers.

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Bullets Prize-winners

(Continued from page 39)

Miss Dickes, 11, Rosemary St., Mansfield; Mrs. Dix, 30, Station Rd., Claydon, Nr. Ipswich; Miss Dowdeswell, 6, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell; Miss Duke, 74, Chancellor St., Glasgow; S. Duke, Gracious St., Whittlesey; F. Duxbury, 198, Cobe Rd., Barnsley; J. Edmonds, 55, Percival Rd., Portsmouth; C. Edwards, 35, Field Rd., Forest Gate; G. Edwards, 273, Sneyd St., Cobridge; C. Ellman, 18, Alexandra Rd., Portsmouth; W. Etherington, A.V.T.C., Hounslow; T. Evans, 43, Ewenny Rd., Maesteg; Mrs. Ferguson, 1, Houston Sq., Johnstone; C. Field, 115, Granville Rd., Thornton Heath; W. Field, 656, Bury Rd., Bolton; Mrs. E. Figgins, High Wood Hospital, Brentwood; V. Foster, Nursery Lane, Moortown, Leeds; Mrs. F. Francis, 8, Grosvenor Rd., Rugby; E. Franco, 58, Greek St., W.; C. Franks, 390, Dudley Rd., Tividale; M. Frederick, 18, Myers Road East, Gt. Crosby; T. Frost, 13/1, Eldon St., Oldham; Mrs. Galbreath, 15, Finnart St., Greenock; A. Gardiner, 15, Alexandra Rd., Hemel Hempstead; A. Gibb, 255, Ashkirk Drive, Glasgow; F. Gillam, 1, The Green, Southwick, Brighton; A. Goddard, 39, Whitehall Rd., Thornton Heath; D. Goodman, 24, Worship St., E.C.; T. Gough, 4, Woodland St., Harpurhey; L. Greenway, 31, Evington Park Rd., Leicester; Miss D. Griffiths, 10, Raven Lane, Ludlow; Miss Groves, Gallants, East Farleigh; M. Gye, 50, Meldon Rd., Longeight; G. Hale, 126, St. Thomas' Rd., Gosport; M. Hanley, 52, Oxton Rd., Wallasey; G. Harden, 14, Oxford Rd., Islington; W. Harris, 72, Rosendale Rd., London, S.E.; Miss Harrison, 7, Cambrian View, Chester; Mrs. Hensley, 30, Council Cottages, Broadway; F. Herbert, Doddington Rd., Lincoln; G. Hicks, 4, Charles St. West, Lincoln; P. Holdroyd, 6, Whitley St., Blackpool; W. Hollings, "Justin," North St., Romford; W. Howsen, 4, Laburnum Cotts., Hertford Heath; Miss Hudson, 12, Warmington Rd., Knotty Ash; T. Hurst, 16, Ashwell St., Salford; J. Inkster, 33, Victoria Rd., Grangemouth; B. Isaac, Wellow, Bath; H. Ive, Perranwell Station, Cornwall; F. Jackson, 85, Frank St., Preston; W. Jackson, 24, Jemmett St., Preston, J. Jarvis, The Bargates, Leominster; Mrs. Jones, 7, Bradford Rd., Cleckheaton; A. Jones c/o 33, Westcroft Sq., Hammersmith; W. Jones, 13, Chaddock St., Preston; R. Jordan, 50, Wilton St., Devonport; H. Keith, 40A, Fountain Rd., Tooting; C. Kent, 45, Southburn Terr., W. Hartlepool; F. Kilding, 41, Malkrie Park, Ripon; J. Kirk, 20, Nowell View, Leeds; E. Kirke, 18, Shortlands Rd., Kingston; F. Lawrey, St. Columb, Cornwall; A. Lawson, 230, Devonshire Av., Southsea; C. Lewis, 8, Carlton Rd., Eastbourne; T. Lewis, 13, Belmont Terr., Aberaman; A. Liddell, 19, Maxwell St., Partick; H. Lister, 24, Sandywood St., Keighley; W. Lowe, 20, Dix's Field, Exeter; J. Mann, 23, Highbury Rd., Bulwell; H. Marshall, 1, Brookland Rd., Abercrave; Dmr. F. Martin, 26 (M.T.) Coy., Victoria Bks., Belfast; T. Matson, 34, Sussex St., Bishop Auckland; R. McBrearty, 26, Gaddum Rd., Didsbury; N. McCallum, 17, Kildonan St., Coatbridge; J. McLay, 500, Paisley Road West, Glasgow; B. MacMahon, Marino Villa, Malahide Rd., Dublin; Mrs. MacNab, St. Ann's Heath, Virginia Water; F. McNab, Parkhead, Midmill, by Dunlee; R. Meek, Helenvale, Queen St., Dunoon; F. Mellor, 58, Cambridge St., Fenton; A. Merrell, 160, Herbert Rd., Small Heath; A. Michie, 9, Spylaw Rd., Edinburgh; J. Middleton, 12, Broad St., Carlisle; S. Millar, 6, Hillmount, Cullybackey, Co. Antrim; W. Mills, Hatch Court, Taunton; F. Mole, 5, Marston Rd., Broughton Park; W. Mount, 43, Crayford Rd., Crayford; F. Nall, 16, William Edward St., Balsall Heath; R. Needham, 121, Kennedy St., Glasgow; H. Nelson, 3, Bylton Cotts., E. Jarrow; L. Newman, 124, Colwick Rd., Nottingham; C. Nicholson, 119, Canning St., Newcastle; A. Nisbet, 1, Balfour Terr., Devonport; G. Northern, 17, Compton Pl., Kettering; F. Oram, 106, Alsinger Rd., Portslade; D. Ormond, 22, Finsbury Av., Newcastle; S. Ould, Egerton House, Richmond; R. 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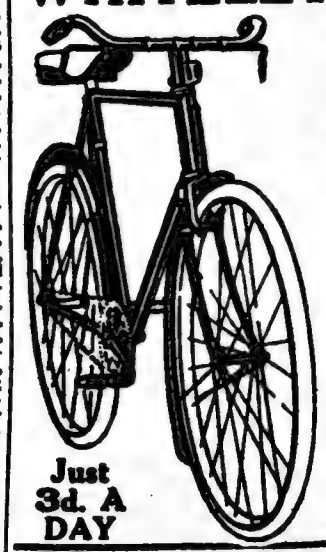

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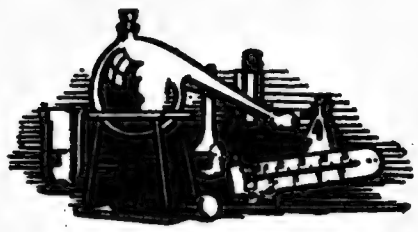

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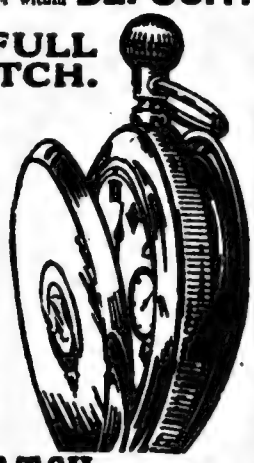

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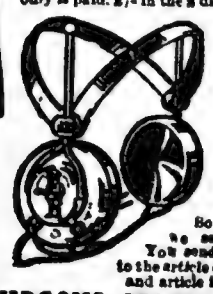

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if you enrich your blood and strengthen your nerves by taking a 5-grain tablet of Blood-Iron Phosphate with each meal. Try it and see. Go to any good chemist and get a 3s. box of Blood-Iron Phosphate and start the treatment right away. If at the end of a fortnight you haven't put on flesh, if you don't feel stronger, better and more vigorous than you have felt for years, you can have your money back for the asking. No drugs, no narcotics; it's simply by enriching your blood and strengthening your nerves that Blood-Iron Phosphate helps you to put on flesh and get stronger.

HOW TO AVOID INDIGESTION

AN EASY WAY TO DO IT.

In most digestive troubles, excess acid and fermented food have a tendency to remain in the stomach until the next meal is eaten. That is why intense pain so often follows immediately after eating. In cases of this kind, digestive disturbance can be absolutely prevented by taking half-a-teaspoonful of "Bisurated" Magnesia powder or two or three tablets in a little water half-an-hour before eating. This neutralises the acid, and in effect washes out the stomach, leaving it clean and sweet for the next meal. Get a 1s. 3d. package of "Bisurated" Magnesia from your chemist to-day. Take it before your next meal and note the absence of the usual pain and discomfort. In very bad cases take another dose after meals, to make assurance doubly sure.

PUTS NEW LIFE IN HAIR ROOTS

MAKES HAIR SOFTER, GLOSSIER, AND MORE BEAUTIFUL.

The life, colour and beauty of your hair depend almost entirely upon the health and vigour of the roots. To preserve the hair, stop hair from falling out, and restore dull, lifeless, brittle hair to its natural softness, luxuriance and beauty, massage the scalp every night with Lavona Hair Tonic, which contains a secret element that feeds and strengthens the hair roots and at the same time destroys dandruff. This treatment is particularly essential for women with bobbed and shingled hair, because close-fitting hats restrict blood circulation and shut out the air, thus weakening the hair roots and causing the hair to fall out. Get a 1s. 6d. bottle of Lavona Hair Tonic from your chemist to-day; use the free Lavona Shampoo enclosed, and then rub in the fragrant tonic every night as directed, and note how much softer, glossier, and more beautiful in every way your hair will look in a few days. If you are not satisfied with the results you can have your money back for the asking.

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Quadrant Cycle Co. DEPT. 2 COVENTRY

FROM 2% WEEKLY

JOHN BULL Replies

THE Editor may be flippant on this page, but his humour is kindly and never malicious. He likes to end up the week's work on a bright note. Serious questions are dealt with by the expert staff of our Free Advice Service.

* * *

N. V. (Poole).—"Fasting will put a stop to any illness." It certainly will, if you fast long enough.

L. N. (Finchley).—"They nearly came to blows." That reminds us of a heavy-weight boxing contest we once saw.

B. C. (Dulwich).—"His English is very bad, but he's very popular in the district." Perhaps his Scotch is better.

H. V. (Bayswater).—"He's always been too fond of rich food." A life like that is no good to the liver.

S. Y. (Lea).—"Dry bread, eaten slowly, is a cure for seasickness." Rolls, however, make the complaint worse.

B. H. (Abbey Wood).—"A man can live by his wits only in a city." The population is more dense there.

P. T. (Amersham).—"I want to know how I stand." The muscles of the legs and feet have a lot to do with it.

R. L. (Margate).—"The doctor has a very soothing manner." But we expect his bills follow his coos.

BERTIE (Mayfair).—"I have written to you hundreds of times." Never mind. We've felt no homicidal urge as yet.

A. T. (Cheam).—"I can look into the future." Then it's no news to you that your letter is in the wastepaper basket.

S. W. (Potters Bar).—"Americans take very little interest in the rest of the world." They prefer to take it from it.

S. N. (Derby).—"He kissed me before I was aware of his intention." We believe you—with difficulty.

G. M. (Ruislip).—"When she called me an insect I was finished with her." You buzzed off, we suppose.

L. L. (London, N.W.).—"I'll call at your office in my car." Impossible. There are no tramlines in Long Acre.

L. B. C. (Earlsfield).—"I fancy myself as a wit." We admire your vivid imagination.

P. N. (London, W.C.).—"I polished the sideboard until I could see my face in it." Was it worth it?

M. J. (Oundle).—"Do the 'Varsity crews sing the Frothblowers' anthem?" We understand they have a hymn of eight.

J. N. (Glasgow).—"My grandfather fought at Waterloo." We once had a dreadful struggle to get a seat at Paddington.

B. H. (Leicester).—"I have a brand new idea for a farcical comedy." Don't be extravagant. One new idea will do for half a dozen farcical comedies.

F. F. (Camden Town).—"Since I met this girl my head is in a whirl." As a rule we discourage poets, but we don't think you really meant this.

J. J. (Northfleet).—"One fine day he'll be arrested for exceeding the speed limit." And the next day will be a fine one, too.

H. B. (Hadley).—"The first thing a motorist must learn is to keep on the right side of the road." That's the wrong side.

L. B. (Kettering).—"My wife sometimes sits up darning clothes till two or three in the morning." She evidently thinks it's never too late to mend.

T. U. (Norwich).—"A genius is born." But not paid.

B. A. (Battle).—"We are having a raffle for a widow." We don't want one.

JENNIE G. (Aigburth).—"My fiancé turned out to be a bad egg." Yet we gather he was too fresh.

R. D. (Glasgow).—"What is the exact position in China?" We can make neither head nor pig-tail of it.

V. L. K. (Stoke).—"Money does not make happiness." A million to one—it helps.

S. C. H. (Enfield).—"I'll tell you all I know." Good. But don't start telling us all you don't know.

H. G. F. (Aylesbury).—"When in town I'd like to see some good second-hand cars." So would we.

C. F. (Chester).—"Motors are stinking, horrible, disgusting things." Dislike or envy?

ARTISTE (London).—"We gave a fine show, but the hall was half empty." Console yourself that it was half full.

G. G. S. (Kingswood).—"It is possible to assemble a car in ten minutes." We know—we've got it.

G. N. (Stoke).—"He falls in love with every fresh girl he meets." Most of them are fresh nowadays.

A. P. K. (Palmer's Green).—"I shan't take in JOHN BULL any more." But you never have done.

ETHEL G. (Hornsey).—"I only take 3's in footwear." We wouldn't be in your shoes for something!

WILLIAM T. (Yeovil).—"There are two men I really admire." Who's the other one?

M. V. (Smithfield).—"I can see myself as others see me." Now you know what they have to put up with.

H. N. (London).—"He left everything to me in his will, but I won't get much out of it." Of course not. Lawyers must live.

A. J. (Mitcham).—"I couldn't get to see the Boatrace." Nevertheless, they're not having another until next year.

T. J. (Glasgow).—"When a bright idea strikes me I make a note of it in my pocket-book." A pencil must last you a long time.

P. N. (Sidcup).—"I don't mind facing overwhelming odds." You're the kind of hero who thinks nothing of having his mother-in-law stopping with him.

C. A. E. (Pitsmoor).—"I made a scholar of myself for the sake of the woman I love." Scholars make fools of themselves for the same reason.

J. T. (Chiswick).—"She doesn't welcome me with a smile as other men's wives do." You have no right to be welcomed with the smiles of other men's wives.

IT is the height of folly to go on worrying whilst there is JOHN BULL'S Free Advice Service at hand. Every difficulty is dealt with by a staff of experts, if particulars, written in ink, are sent, with stamped, addressed envelope.

* * *

S. W. (Sheffield).—"I don't like the woman; she's too reserved." Who for?

A. T. S. (Thirsk).—"I have sown my wild oats." Now grow sage.

E. L. (London, W.).—"Summer dresses haven't appeared yet." They won't be long.

R. S. (Bristol).—"Worms are now appearing on the lawns." They are generally harnessed to the roller.

F. F. (Kendal).—"This summer I mean to do the Continent thoroughly." We'll wager the Continent will do you first.

MISS C. (Clitheroe).—"He's a conceited idiot who thinks I am not his equal." While all the time you are.

MISS L. (Kew).—"My ancestors came over with William the Conqueror." Ah, but the immigration laws are stricter now.

D. K. (Bexhill).—"I like guests who call but don't stop long." So you treat them as one of the family and make sure.

M. B. (Leeds).—"I specialise in outsizes for ladies." Living on the fat of the land, so to speak.

G. M. (Wavertree).—"I feel I cannot live without her." While what you should feel is, can you live with her?

M. D. (St. Albans).—"My husband hasn't got much taste?" You're too modest.

H. K. (Charlton).—"It is my resolve to call on you next week." We hope it always will be.

H. K. (Brixton).—"I am thinking of applying for admission to the Stock Exchange." Beware of the bulls and bears and sharks.

J. T. (St. Albans).—"Once I thought of ploughing a ten-acre field, but I didn't do it." You at least turned it over in your mind.

MOLLIE (Burnley).—"Whether I really care for him or not, even after half a year walking out, I don't know." We do. You don't.

F. G. (Oldham).—"It's easy to ask questions, but not so easy to answer them." So we're always telling the gentlemen of the income-tax department.

M. F. (Morecambe).—"The doctor told me if I didn't stop winter bathing I might get brain paralysis." Why didn't you stop?

MISS K. (Richmond).—"I'm invited to a place in town, but I've nothing to wear." We will take your word for it without further proof.

MRS. J. (Bradford).—"I had enclosed photo. taken immediately after my visit to the beauty parlour." Heavens! You must have found it shut!

H. S. (Leicester).—"The landlord won't allow us to keep chickens." Hatch out that *Bullets* "Easter Egg" of £500 and become your own landlord.

MRS. T. (Liverpool).—"I will not give my children rewards for being good." Surely you don't want them to grow up good for nothing.

H. H. (Manchester).—"I thought you were friendly to me and yet you didn't print a word of my letter." And what bigger proof of friendliness can you want than that?

(Many replies unavoidably held over.)

WHO WANTS A "MUSTARD CLUB" PUP? A FREE MASCOT FOR YOU!

The "Mustard Club" Pup is a delightfully quaint animal made of plush and he is sure to raise a smile from anyone who sees him.

The "Black Cat" people had him specially designed to offer as a Gift—not only as a mascot for members of the Mustard Club—but to all who send 100 coupons from packets of Black Cat Cigarettes.

IMPORTANT

To all sufferers from

CATARRH

Deafness, Asthma, Ear Noises, Hay Fever.

Hundreds of men and women who in the past suffered from Catarrh, Deafness, Asthma and similar distressing ailments—but who suffer no longer—testify to the wonderful cures effected by the use in their own homes of the late Sir Hiram Maxim's inhaler. Yet many thousands who still suffer hesitate to send for this wonderful invention because they are in doubt whether it would effect a cure in *their* case.

OUR NEW OFFER

On receipt of P.O. for 2/6, we will send you one of these Maxim Inhaler Sets. Use it for seven days If it does not bring you relief, send it back to us unbroken and we will refund your money. If you obtain benefit from it, as we know you will, then send us the balance of 5/-. Only new and unused Inhalers are issued by us. Every set returned is destroyed and means a dead loss to us.

If you would prefer to have our booklet, the "Home Doctor," first, we will send it FREE on receipt of your name and address. It tells in their own words the experience of those who have used the Inhaler and been cured of Catarrh, Deafness, Hay Fever, Colds, Coughs, Asthma, and Bronchitis. If you suffer from, or are subject to, any of these complaints, this Inhaler will truly surprise you. Its use brings immediate relief and eventual cure. No matter what remedies you have tried before, make up your mind now to suffer no more. Send your P.O. to-day (or write for the booklet). Where other "cures" have entirely failed, this Inhaler has succeeded.

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Please send me Maxim Inhaler Set. I enclose P.O. 2/6, and will either send the balance 5/- or return the set unbroken within 7 days for refund of my deposit.

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These guaranteed finest quality All Wool Yorkshire Blankets are offered at an unprecedented low price, on easy terms. Pure white with blue border and whipped edges. Not a thread of cotton in them—World's finest value. Weight; Size pair; 3lbs; 72 x 90ins. 5/- now, 5/- monthly.

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A user of a Myatt Patent Daymarked Safety Razor Blade had no fewer than 30 good shaves with it—and that is not a record. Daymarking, the device that enables you to rest each edge in turn, makes Myatt Britlas Blades unique. They keep keen.

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Each blade will carry you over many days.

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1/3 FOR FIVE

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POSITIVELY CURED

Bad legs with wounds perhaps so surrounded with inflammation, and swollen, that when you press your finger on the affected part an impression remains? Your knees may be swollen, the joints being ulcerated; same with the ankles, round which the skin is discoloured. The disease if allowed to continue may deprive you of the power to walk. Perhaps you have been told your case is hopeless. But do not despair. The Great English Remedy

GRASSHOPPER OINTMENT

with 60 years' reputation, goes to the root of the disease, reduces the inflammation, DRAWS out the poison, and **positively cures Ulcers, Swollen Ankles, Poisoned Wounds, Abscesses, Carbuncles, Ringworm,** etc. Sold by all Chemists and Drug Stores, 1s. 3d. and 3s. a tin, or post free from Dept. J.B., Grasshopper Ltd., North Road, Holloway, London, N.7.

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I was bald. My hair grew anew, as shown in the portrait. Many persons—both men and women—who were completely bald have grown a full crop of beautiful hair by using KOTALKO.

Marvellous and speedy growth of hair has been reported even when falling hair, dandruff and baldness have existed for years.

A testing box of KOTALKO may be obtained by sending threepence in stamps to

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DUNLOP Roadrider Good Tyres

RENOLD CHAIN

MIDDLEMORE'S Three Coil Spring Saddle

Lady's or Gent's model same price. Carriage Paid. Terms: £1- now, & £1- monthly. Complete Approval

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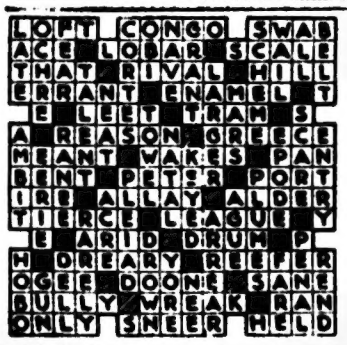


Solution to the Crossword Puzzle published in our last issue

"The Greatest of These . . . . ."

Starving Through Sickness

Tragedies of Stricken Bread-winners

WHEN sickness invades the homes of modest wage-earners the results are often tragic indeed, for to his physical sufferings the incapacitated bread-winner has added the mental torture of anxiety regarding the welfare of his wife and little ones.

A case brought to our notice last week was that of a man recommended to us both by his doctor and by a former employer.

In his letter the stricken man shows that his chief anxiety is for his wife and two little girls.

A very similar case is that of a man who has been laid aside and unable to work since Christmas last. He made a gallant struggle against ill-health for a year previously, but finally broke down.

He is now in hospital and his wife goes out charing daily to support their three little children, but she is quite unable to earn sufficient to keep them properly nourished and clad, and when her husband is discharged, clothes will be needed in order that he may avail himself of the doctor's efforts to get him into the country to recuperate.

Another case is that of a man who has succumbed to pleurisy and pneumonia after a long period of working half-time through ill-health. There are five children under thirteen years of age.

There is great need of increased financial support for "The Greatest of These—" Fund to enable us to deal with these and similar cases.

The fund is the one charity in which every penny subscribed is devoted without deduction for relieving the poor and needy.

"The Greatest of These—"

Registered under the War Charities Act as the JOHN BULL *War Sufferers' Fund. All cheques should be made payable to the Fund, and donations addressed to the Hon. Secretary, at 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Every penny that is subscribed to "The Greatest of These—" Fund goes to give help to the needy. All the expenses of administration are borne by* JOHN BULL.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

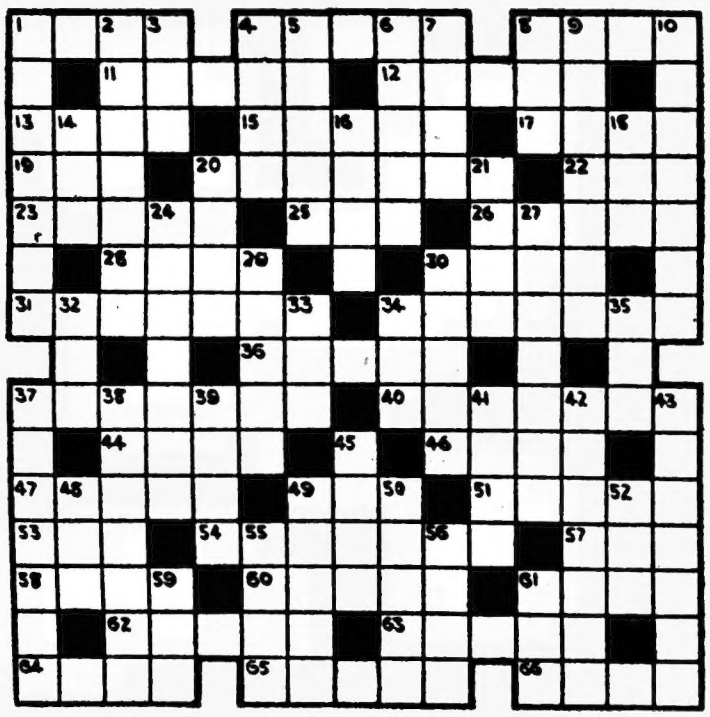
Trebor, 10s.; Old Blue Cap (Redhill), 5s.; Yardley St. Edwards, 4s.; A's and B's, 5s.; Thankoffering, M. J. T. (Ashford, Kent), 2s. 6d.; D. J. Jones (Ft. Victoria, 8th. Rhodesia), 6s.; Anon., 1s.; J. Betty (South Hackney), 5s.; Anon. (Acton), 11d.; S. Y. F., 1s.; Mrs. Angle Smith (Patricroft), 1s.; Unwealthy Thanker, 2s.; Mr. N. L. Benke, 1s.; Mrs. Harrington (Wood Green), 1s.; Mrs. A. Simmons, 1s.; Mr. E. Tipper (Oxted), 10s.; Mr. D. Reid (Cornhill, Banffshire), 1s.; A. K. (Ashton-u-Lyne, 10s.; In dear Rust Platt, 2s. 6d.; Feb. 1st, 1s. 3d.; T. L. Skinner (Reading), 7s.; An Atom, 5s.; Anon. (Harrogate), 2s. 6d.; Shoe Artist, 2s.; Mr. J. Cairns, (Co. Down, Ulster), 2s.; Mr. S. Jones (Flint, N. Wales), 2s.; E. Stonemer (Exeter), 4s. 9d.; Mrs. M. Orrell (Horwich), 3s.; J. S. H. (Chester), 2s. 5d.; Mrs. E. Dunnicliffe (Highbury), 10s.; E. E. Ames (Bath), 8s.; Crooked Bawbee (Scotland), 1s.; Every Little Helps (a *John Bull* Reader), 1s.; Mrs. Vesey (Harringay), 1s.; H. B. (W.2), 1s.; Mrs. Silver, 6d.; Mrs. Leigaton, 9d.; Mrs. Deavin, 1s.; Mr. D. Muirhead, 1s.; Mr. James Smith (Dundee), 2s.; Miss Carsle, 1s.; L. H. (Gainsboro'), 6d.; Target Winner (Chorley), 1s.; N. O. P. (Burton-on-Trent), 1s.; Mrs. Elder (Leith), 2s. 6d.; R. H. (Auchinblae), 2s. 2d.; C. H. Moore (Bickford), 2s. 6d.; Ninth of Luck, 11d.; Tromite, 6d.; F. G. (Middlesbrough), 1s.; Mr. J. Bowles, 1s.; Fed Up, Crossword, 2s.; H. B. and Sons (Cowes), 2s. 6d.;

Mr. Philip Inman begs to acknowledge, with grateful thanks, the following anonymous donations: "Anonymous" six sovereigns; "A Girl Who Worships Her Mother," £1; "M. A. R. L." (Peterboro'), 10s.; "A Mother," 2s.; "A Well Wisher" (Bristol), £1.

(Many acknowledgments unavoidably held over.

Our Cross-Word Corner

Another Good One



CLUES ACROSS

1. Frigid.
4. To exalt.
8. Gone.
11. Order.
12. To profit.
13. A bouquet.
15. Attack on fortified place.
17. Top of the head.
19. Exclamation.
20. Reproof.
22. Impair.
23. Ascend.
25. Aeriform fluid.
26. Love.
28. Naked.
30. Dry.
31. Coloured woman.
34. Acrid.
36. Cut.
37. Night club.
40. Loss by use.
44. So be it.
46. Soft earth.
47. One under eight.
49. Animal's foot.
51. A fissure.
53. Expanse of water.
54. A crane.
57. Fish spawn.
58. Odd.
60. Written slander.
61. Funeral litter.
62. Epic poem.
63. Art of reasoning.
64. To snap
65 In want.
66. Magnesian mineral.

CLUES DOWN

1. Military rank.
2. Durable.
3. Free from damp.
4. Comfort.
5. Prevaricating.
6. Portuguese river.
7. Always.
8. A seed.
9. According to fashion.
10. At that place.
14. Possessive pronoun.
16. Biblical character.
18. A sailor.
20. Yield.
21. Gain by labour.
24. Family appellation.
27. Pertaining to the fingers.
29. Famous German arsenal.
30. Connected with the ear.
32. Age.
33. A collection
34. Church seat
35. A horse.
37. Clergyman's garment.
38. German state.
39. Tear.
41 Foot covering.
42. "God's Own country."
43. Kind of fever.
45. A hook.
48. Before.
49. Inordinate self-esteem.
50. To sway.
52. Enemy.
55. Dash.
56. To glut.
59. Mountain.
61. A piece.

For Cold on the Chest

Simply massage Musterole in gently with the finger-tips. You will be delighted at the quick relief. This clean, white ointment, made with oil of mustard, does not blister like the old-fashioned mustard plaster. It often prevents pneumonia and other complications.

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First Prize Huge Easter Egg of £500
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Example:—A Baby
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Example:—A Baby
Bullet:—Reason "Things Patched Up."

FOURTH PRIZE OF £50:

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Example:—With A Struggle
Bullet:—Nations Giving Up Struggles.

FIFTH PRIZE OF £25:

Mr. R. JACKSON, 23, Cyprus Street, Middlesbrough.
Example:—Britain's Best
Bullet:—"Wright" Balancing—"Industrial See-saw."

10 Prizes of £5 each:

W. Barnes, 30, Peter Street, Northwich, Cheshire.
Modern Marriage—Love *World's* The *Rule*.

C. Blant, 44, Shillito Road, Upper Parkstone, Dorset.
Wireless—Scotland Yard's "Big Fifth."

R. Bowles, Colville Road, Oulton Broad, Lowestoft.
His Business—"Advanced" By Staying "Behind."

L. E. Bradney, 47, Mushroom Green, Cradley Heath, Staffs.
Wise Wife—Flag Of Truce, Tablecloth.

J. Brown, 79, Mansfield Street, Sherwood, Notts.
My Mistake—Thought *Racehorse* Man's Friend.

S. J. Everett, 16, Upper Coed Cae, Nantyglo, Mon.
Retiring—Armies—Civilisation "Gaining Ground."

W. A. Garratt, Flat "C," Cleneagle Mansions, Cleneagle Road, Streatham.
Evidently—Refrigerators Also Preserve Prices.

Mrs. D. Johnson, Treworgan, Ingatestone.
In The Workhouse—Ex-soldier, Because Government's "Casual."

J. J. Mundey, 5, Owen Street, Eastney, Portsmouth.
Cupid—"Babe" Nations Must "Adopt."

N. Weston, 24, Oakmount Avenue, Southampton.
Heard In The Dark—Nothing—Tells Grundy Everything.

10 Prizes of £2 10s. each:

W. W. Bolton, 11, Marsden Hall Road, Nelson, Lancs.
Wise Wife—Cook—But No "Policeman."
(Entered on "Target" Prize Coupon.)

Mrs. E. J. Chatfield, Providence Place, Pyrford, Surrey.
Why They Were Happy—"Gave Way" Without "Snapping."

F. Dennison, 25, Arthur Street, Belfast.
My Mistake—Not "Closing" With "Opening."

E. W. Harford, 11, Maple Road, Romford.
When I'm Rich—Morning Train Loses *Me*.

H. McDonald, c/o, McGregor, "The Filters," Glassford, Lanarkshire.
Promising—Anything—Anything But Promising.
(Entered on "Target" Prize Coupon.)

Miss M. Shedden, 2,283, Dumbarton Road, Scotstoun, Glasgow.
A Baby—"Ten-pounder" *Mother* Brags About.

W. Thomson, 3, Murray Terrace, Octavia Street, Kirkcaldy, Fife.
Britain's Best—And Worst Advertisement, Emigrant.

E. Victor, 4, Victoria Road, Levenshulme, Manchester.
Unwise—Unsound Mike's Sound Unminded.

F. Wilkinson, Park Road, Ashford, Kent.
When I'm Rich—They'll Probably Abolish Money.

J. Williamson, 13, Spring Gardens, Hyde.
Cupid—"Spy" Watching "Spring Manœuvres."

(*Continued in next column.*)

Examples for "Bullets" Competition No. 634

WHEN THE BUGLE CALLS
CHINESE WARFARE
FRIEND IN NEED
FOOLISH MOVE
WITHOUT A PENNY
HER FANCY
I'D LIKE TO BE
WORTH A FORTUNE
ROCKING
HER FREEDOM
MAKES ME ANGRY
NEVER SATISFIED
SON AND HEIR
GOING WEST
TREAT FOR FATHER
ABSENT
WHAT THE HOUSE-AGENT SAID
NO TROUBLE
WAY OF A WOMAN
FOR ALL
WHY HE WAITED
LAST TIME
KNOWING
A CUCKOO
GOING FOR HER
SAID TO THE WAITER
DESERVES TO WIN
COOLLY
A GOOD DEAL
RIDICULOUS
VILLAGE DANCE
WHAT IS A BILL?

200 "Bullets" Gift Winners:

H. Ackroyd, 56, Malsis Rd., Keighley; S. Adams, 52, Childebert Rd., S.W.; R. Alison, 24, The Rye, Peckham; W. Anderson, 50, St. Mary's Place, Newcastle; T. Arris, Sunnybank Terr., Bathgate; A. Atkinson, 78, Gladstone Av., Wood Green; Miss Atter, Highfield St., Market Harboro'; G. Aubrey, 19, Hazelbury Rd., Edmonton; A. Balderson, 49, Baker St., Doncaster. C. Ball, 54, Foxtourne Rd., Orpington; Mrs. Barkworth, Rose Lawn, Wye, Kent; J. Beard, 34, Manor St., St. Helens; Mrs. Beeson, 157, Portland Rd., Hucknall; B. Berry, 45, Fairbank Rd., Bradford; Miss Betty, 47, Victoria Park Rd., E.; J. Bold, 293, Gala Park Rd., Galashiels; T. Bond, 37, Common Lane, Halifax; Miss Boyce, 2, Albert Terr., S. Shields; W. Bradford, 5, King St., Honiton; W. Brookfield, 214, Frodingham Rd., Scunthorpe; E. Brown, 16, Bernard St., Nottingham; G. Brown, 20, Crowther St., Stockport; W. Brown, 10, Aulton Pl., Kennington; J. Brownlie, 213, Stockport Rd., Ardwick; Mrs. Bury, 28, Oak Rd., Broughton; Mrs. E. Byrne, Red Rock, Gorran Haven; I. Cable, Benfield Way, Portslade; J. Cain, Boot Stores, Corporation St., Chorley; Miss Campbell, 5, Bassetsbury Lane, High Wycombe; J. Campbell, 184, High St., Linlithgow; J. Carter, "Queen Anne," Gt. Hucklow, Nr. Buxton; Mrs. Casson, 10, Calster St., Ingrow, Yorks.; E. Clabburn, 48, Nelson St., Norwich; W. Collier, 8, Norfolk Rd., Thornton Heath; C. Cooper, 3, The Orchard, Harborne; R. Coulson, 20, Hornby St., Wigan; Mrs. M. Cox, 14, Brookfield Park, N.W.; Mrs. Cramer, 29, Radstock Rd., Southampton; G. Cranston, 1, Horsefair St., Leicester; A. Creek, Northfield Rd., Soham; H. Cross, "Hartlands," Fortis Green; J. Dagnall, 85, Cartwright St., Warrington; Mrs. Davies, Bronges, Lampeter; Pte. Deegan, "H. Grs.," 20th Batt. Kilkenny; Mrs. Deveraux, 17, Club Row, Ystrad, Rhondda;

(*Continued on page 35.*)

☞ A postcard to the Competition Editor will bring you an illustrated booklet of "Bullets" Gifts. A selection of the 200 Prizes is being displayed at the "John Bull" Pen Parade, Canada Motor Station Approach, London, E.C.

HOW TO MAKE "BULLETS"

There is nothing difficult about *Bullets*. All you have to do is this. Select any of the *Examples* below—then give any TWO, THREE, or FOUR words with some bearing upon it. These specimens will guide you:—

Example:—Bad Boy — *Bullet*:—"Gets It" From Father.
Example:—Wireless Programme — *Bullet*:—*World* To The *Blind*.
Example:—Wrong Way — *Bullet*:—About—Armaments Reducing Nations.

ENCLOSE A POSTAL ORDER AT THE RATE OF 6d. FOR EACH COUPON USED.

☞ **Address Coupons to** "Bullets" No. 634, "John Bull," Long Acre, London W.C.2 (Comp.)

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, April 21.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(634) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. With 1 Coupon, send P.O. for 6d.
Signed _____
Address _____

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, April 21.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(634) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. With 2 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s.
Signed _____
Address _____

☞ "Bullets" must consist of Two, Three or Four Words.

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, April 21.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(634) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. With 3 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s. 6d.
Signed _____
Address _____

Example _____ Closing Date, Thursday, April 21.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(634) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. With 4 Coupons, send P.O. for 2s.
Signed _____
Address _____

☞ If you wish to send in further "Bullets" you can write them on plain paper.

"BULLETS" RULES.

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what in the opinion of the judges in consultation with the Editor is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality.

2. Only two attempts may be written on each coupon, and a postal order must be enclosed at the rate of 6d. for each coupon made use of. This must be made payable to John Bull, and crossed & Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Coupons must not be mutilated.

3. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

4. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

Employees of Odhams Press are not eligible to compete.

Is Catarrh Poisoning YOU?

4 Years' Chronic Catarrh Completely Cured in 4 Weeks.

MR. MANKTELOW.

Mr. A. E. Manktelow, Maces Cottages, St. Michael's, Tenterden, Kent, writes: "In four weeks the 'Shirley System' has completely cured me (after professional treatment failed) of Chronic Catarrh of four years' standing and its attendant ailments — frequent heavy colds, constant sneezing, headaches, head noises, pains over eyes, throat troubles, cough, etc. I look splendid since I was cured, and I feel as well as I look. Naturally I am more than satisfied."—March 22, 1927.

Read How These Men and Women Cured This Deadly Complaint (commonly known as Chronic Cold in the Head) and then

TEST MY SYSTEM ON 10 DAYS' TRIAL

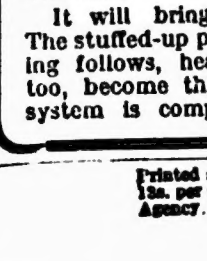
5 Years' Chronic Catarrh Permanently Cured in 30 Days.

MRS. ALDOUS.

Mrs. Aldous, 54A, Green Lanes, Hanwell, London, W.7, writes: "I suffered from Chronic Catarrh for five years. My hearing was affected and head noises, head pains, eye and throat trouble were present too. After the first application of the 'Shirley System,' I was greatly relieved. In a month I was completely cured. This was just a year ago, and there has been no return since. In my opinion the 'Shirley System' is the ONLY remedy for Catarrh!"—March 19th, 1927.

Thousands being Poisoned by Catarrh!

20 Years' Catarrh and Head Noises Cured in 3 Weeks.



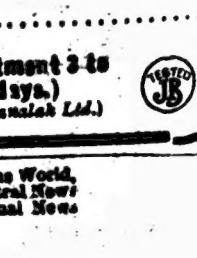
MR. S. SMITH.

Mr. Stephen Smith, Sutton Lane, Broughton Astley, Nr. Leicester, writes: "For 20 years I suffered from Catarrh, Headnoises, Headaches, pressure and pains over the eyes. I was always catching colds and sneezing. I could not breathe through my nose, and my throat was never clear of phlegm. Then I tried the 'Shirley System,' and was completely cured in three weeks. For nearly 8 months now I have been free from it. I cannot speak too highly of your wonderful treatment."—March 22nd, 1927.

You need not continue to suffer from this Blood-and-Body-Poisoning complaint and its serious consequences any longer. To-day, a proved remedy, that has cured thousands, is offered on ten days' trial to every sufferer.

Even in cases where every other treatment has failed, my "Shirley System" has brought about a complete cure. Read and judge for yourself from the successful "experiences" of others. This most successful treatment clears every trace and symptom of Deadly Catarrh out of the system. It also stops the formation and accumulation of the poisonous catarrhal mucus. It soothes and strengthens the too sensitive membranous lining of the throat, nasal and other air passages.

12 Years' Catarrh and Deafness Permanently Cured in 4 Weeks.



MR. A. DAVIES.

Mr. Arthur Davies, 18, Oak Hill Road, Housing Site, Batley, writes: "For 12 years up to 18 months ago I was deaf. The terrible affliction was caused by constant colds—one after another. I tried many so-called 'Remedies,' but they had no effect. Then I started the 'Shirley System,' and in four weeks I could hear again. My health was better in all ways. The cure has proved permanent, and I am really satisfied."—March 10th, 1927.

Beware of these Dangerous Symptoms.

7 Years' Catarrh and Deafness Cured to Stay Cured.

MR. HUNTINGDON

Mr. W. Huntingdon, 36, Railway Cottages, Green Lane, Tyne Dock, South Shields, writes: "15 months ago the 'Shirley System' completely cured me in a month after seven years' terrible suffering, from Catarrh. I remained cured and have never been in better health. Before I tried your wonderful treatment I was always catching colds. I lost taste and smell and went deaf on and off. I had a bad throat, suffered from headnoises and headaches, and was always tired on rising."—March 22nd, 1927.

—If phlegm drops into the back of your Throat,
—If you have a tendency to catch Colds easily,
—If there is a feeling of dryness in your Throat,
—If you have to clear the Throat frequently,
—If your Nose is stopped up or "stuffy,"
—If you feel tired on rising,
—If your voice is husky,
—If there is pain between or over the eyes,
—If you sneeze frequently,
—If a change in the weather affects you,
—If you suffer from frontal headaches,
—If you suffer from shortness of breath,
—If your sense of smell is affected,
—If you suffer from strange "head noises,"
—If there is a sense of fulness or pressure in your head.

Sixteen Years' Catarrh and Deafness Completely Cured.

MRS. WARD.

Mrs. Ward, 21, Pleasant Valley, Saffron Walden, writes: "Mine was a bad case of Catarrh, Deafness, and Head Noises of 16 years' standing. When I started the 'Shirley Treatment,' I was unable to do my housework, or even to go out. The result of your treatment is wonderful. I can breathe freely again, my throat is clear, my hearing has returned, and I have lost the head noises."—March 9th, 1927

TEST My Method on 10 Days' Trial.

Doctors now realise that Catarrh is dangerous. It not only causes much suffering and distress, but it has a high rate of mortality, because the slimy and poisonous mucus flows downwards (especially during sleep) into the stomach, intestines, and other organs, causing Malnutrition, Debility and a Catarrhal condition of the whole inner man that lowers resisting power to disease, and leads to such deadly ailments as Gastric Catarrh, Intestinal Catarrh, and even Consumption itself.

If YOU are in the Grip of Catarrh, don't delay, but write to me to-day, and learn how speedily the "Shirley System" will save you from the miseries and risks of Catarrh in all its forms, including Catarrhal Deafness and Gastric Catarrh.

It will bring you relief from the very first. The stuffed-up passages get clear, easy nasal breathing follows, head noises disappear. Headaches, too, become things of the past, and your whole system is completely cleared of the slimy and poisonous mucus. It will lift the Crushing Burden of Catarrh from your shoulders like magic.

No matter how often you have been disappointed before, or how long you have suffered, don't despair until you have tried the wonderful "Shirley System."

SENT ON 10 DAYS' TRIAL.

POST FREE COUPON TO-DAY.

This treatment has proved so remarkably successful even in the worst forms of Chronic Catarrh-Deafness, Head Noises, etc., that I will gladly send it on 10 days' trial to any sufferer on the distinct understanding that if no benefit is derived no expense of any kind will be incurred. Simply fill in your name and address on the Special Free Coupon opposite and post immediately to me. The most important point in your own interest is to **act at once and send the Coupon NOW.**

FREE COUPON.

To Mr. ELMER SHIRLEY,
52, Gray's Inn Road (B.196), London, W.C.1

Dear Sir,—Please send me at once full particulars so that I can avail myself of 10-Days' Trial of the Shirley System, as per your JOHN BULL Special Offer

(Please write in capital letters.)

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

.....

(Personal consultations by appointment 2 to 4 o'clock daily, except Saturdays.)

(Sanalak Ltd.)

TESTED JB

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